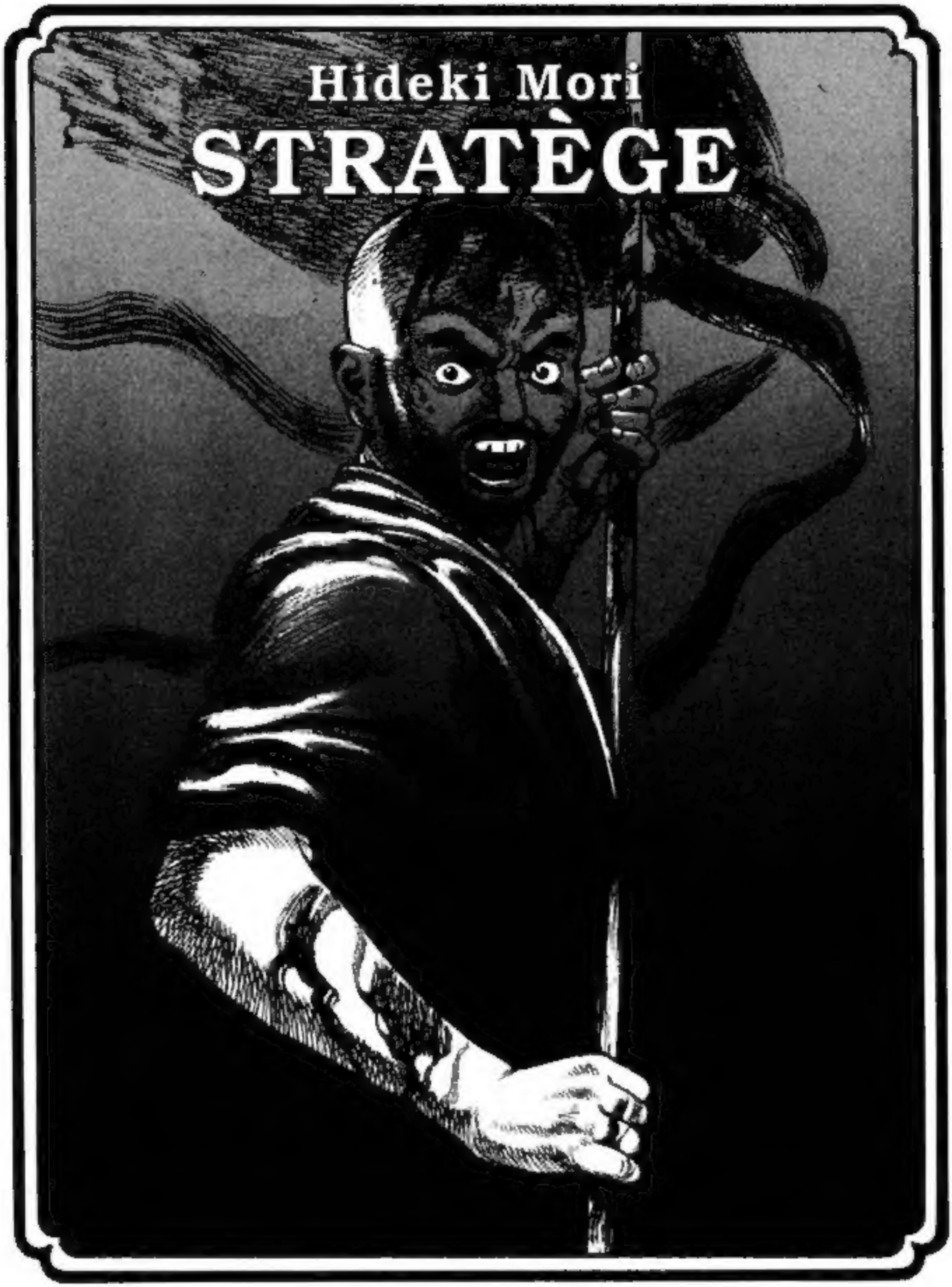
Hideki Mori
STRATÈGE

BOKKO

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CHAPTER 01
THE CITY WITHOUT KAKURI

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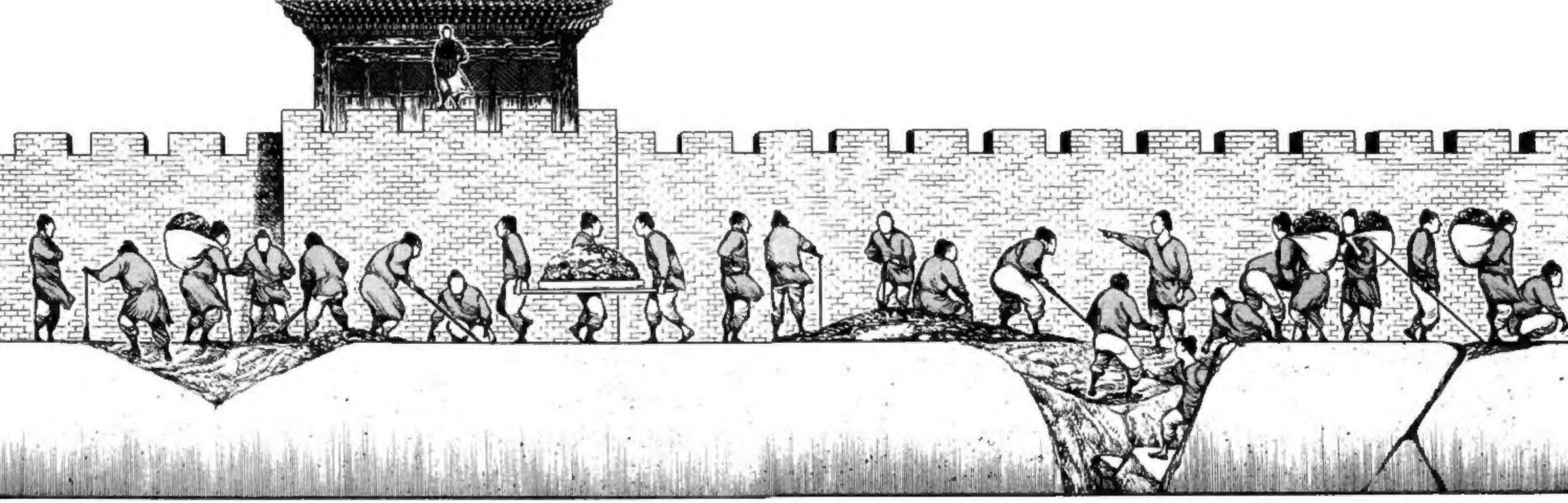
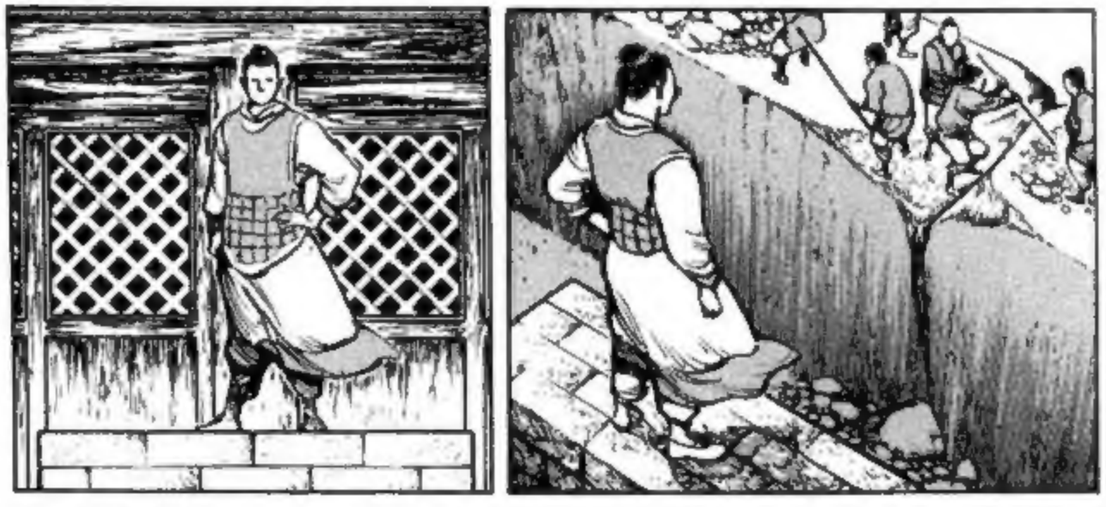
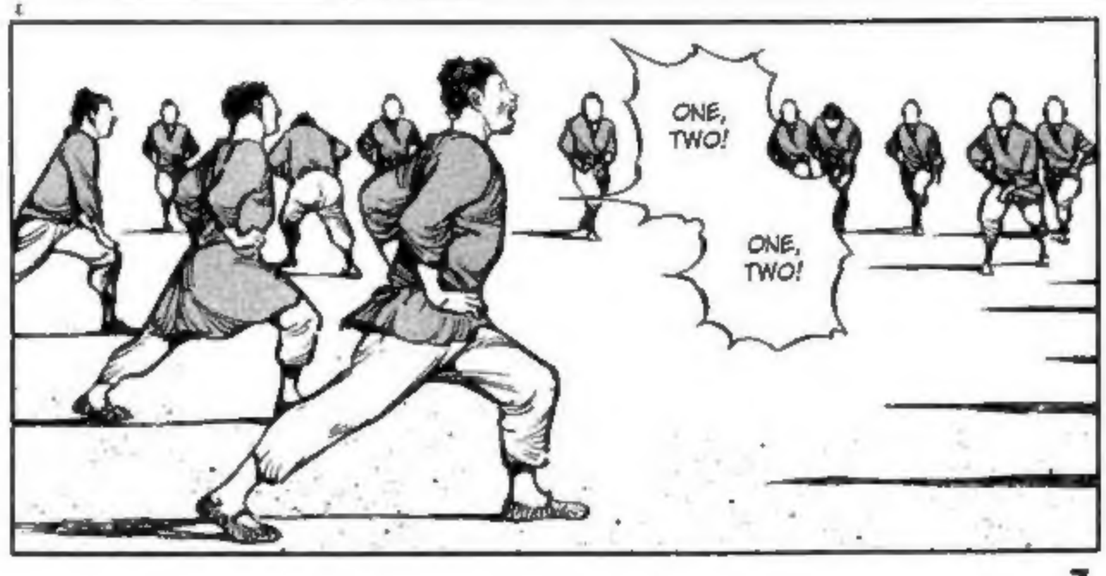
PROOFREADER: ZYPH




REPAIR THE CRACKS IN THE WALLS QUICKLY!
THE ARMY OF TCHO WILL SURELY ATTACK US AGAIN WITHIN A FEW DAYS!

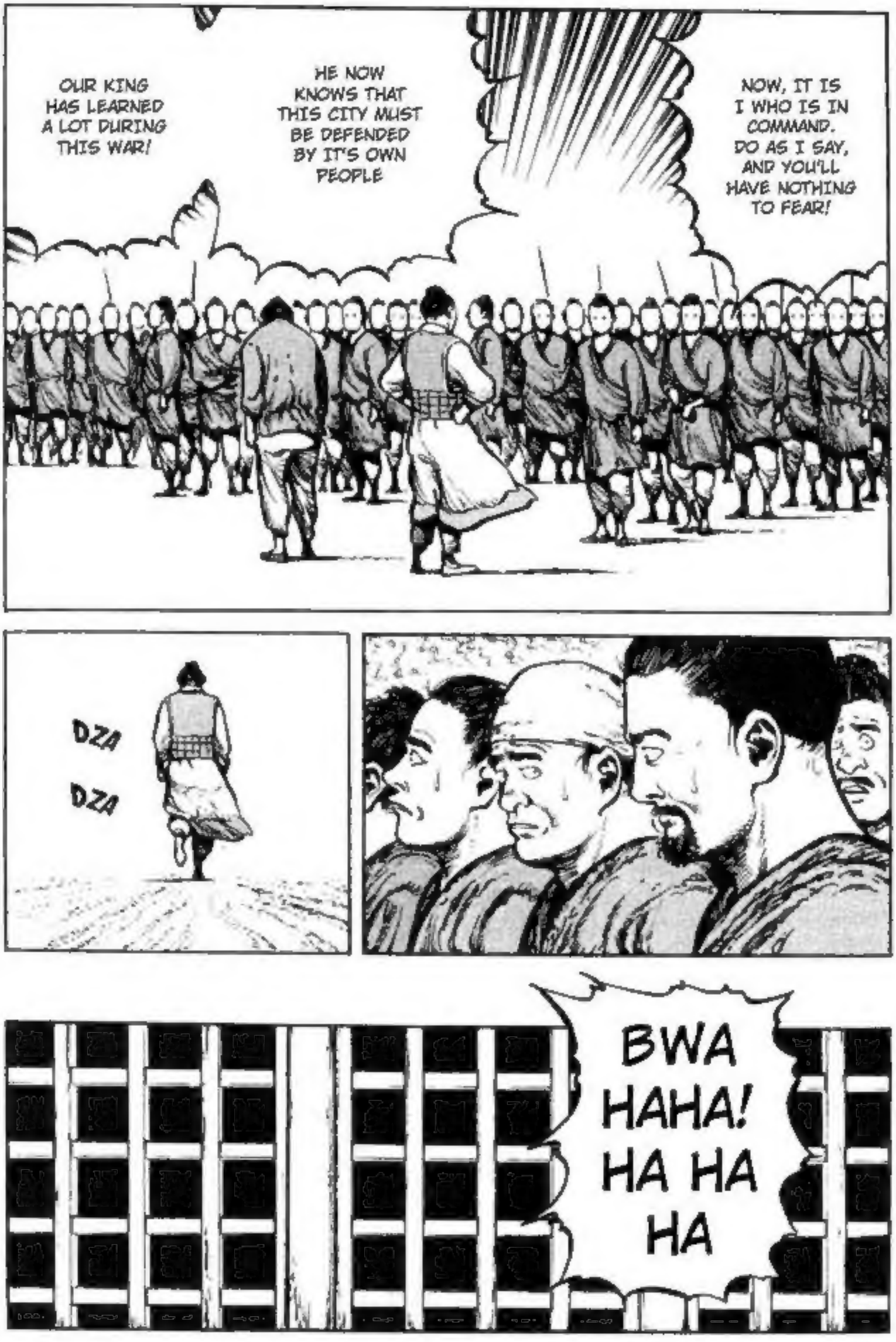
ONE, TWO!
ONE, TWO!


ONE, TWO!
ONE, TWO!

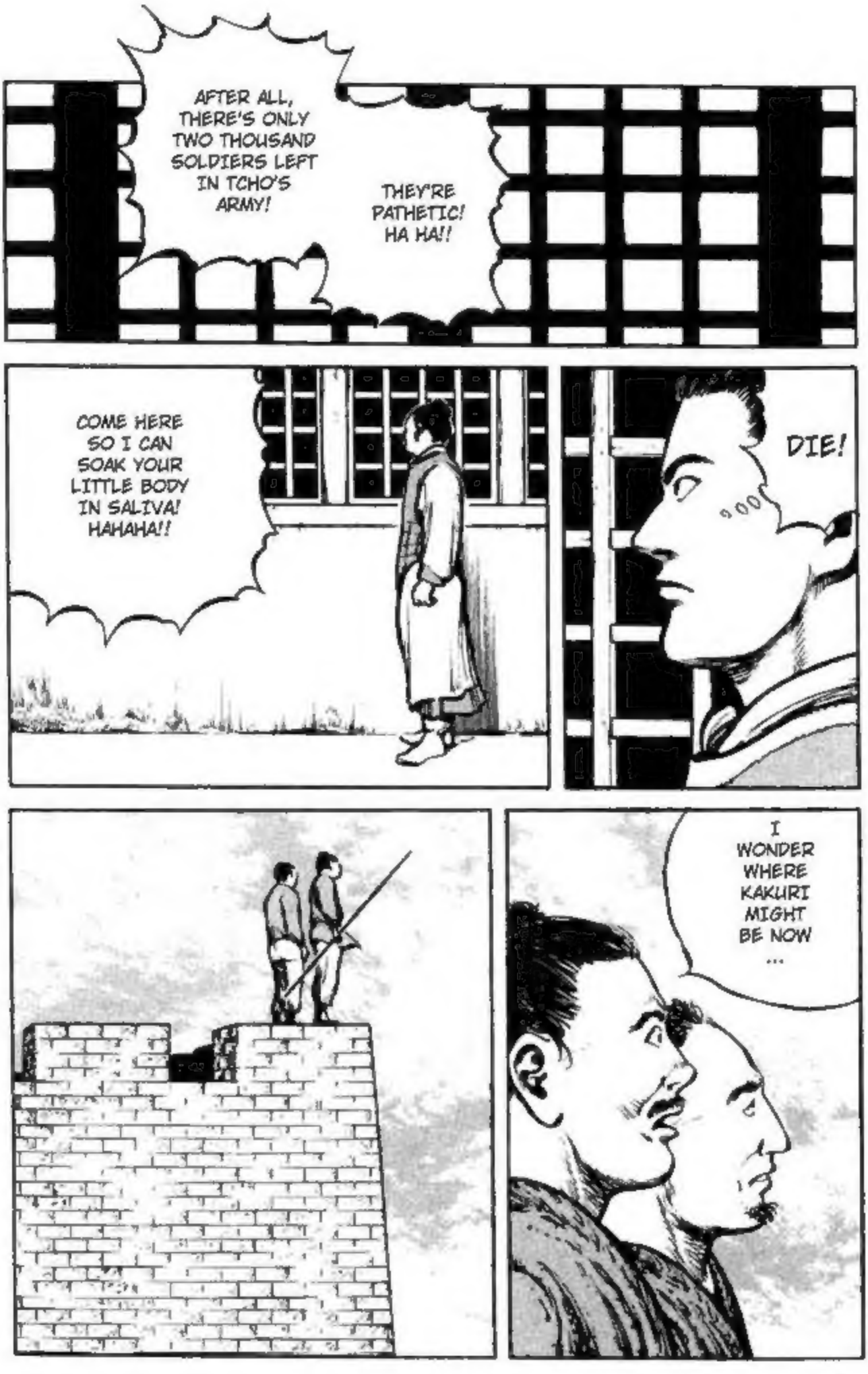
WE MUST BE ABLE TO ENDURE WHEN THE DECISIVE BATTLE STARTS! WORK HARD AND GAIN STRENGTH!
I MUST SAY, IT'S EASIER TO OBEY SAIKYU THAN TO OBEY PRINCE RYOTEKI
SURE
SAIKYU'S ORDERS FEELS JUST LIKE KAKURI'S
EVERYONE FOLLOWS THEM
QUIET!
DZA
DZA
DZA

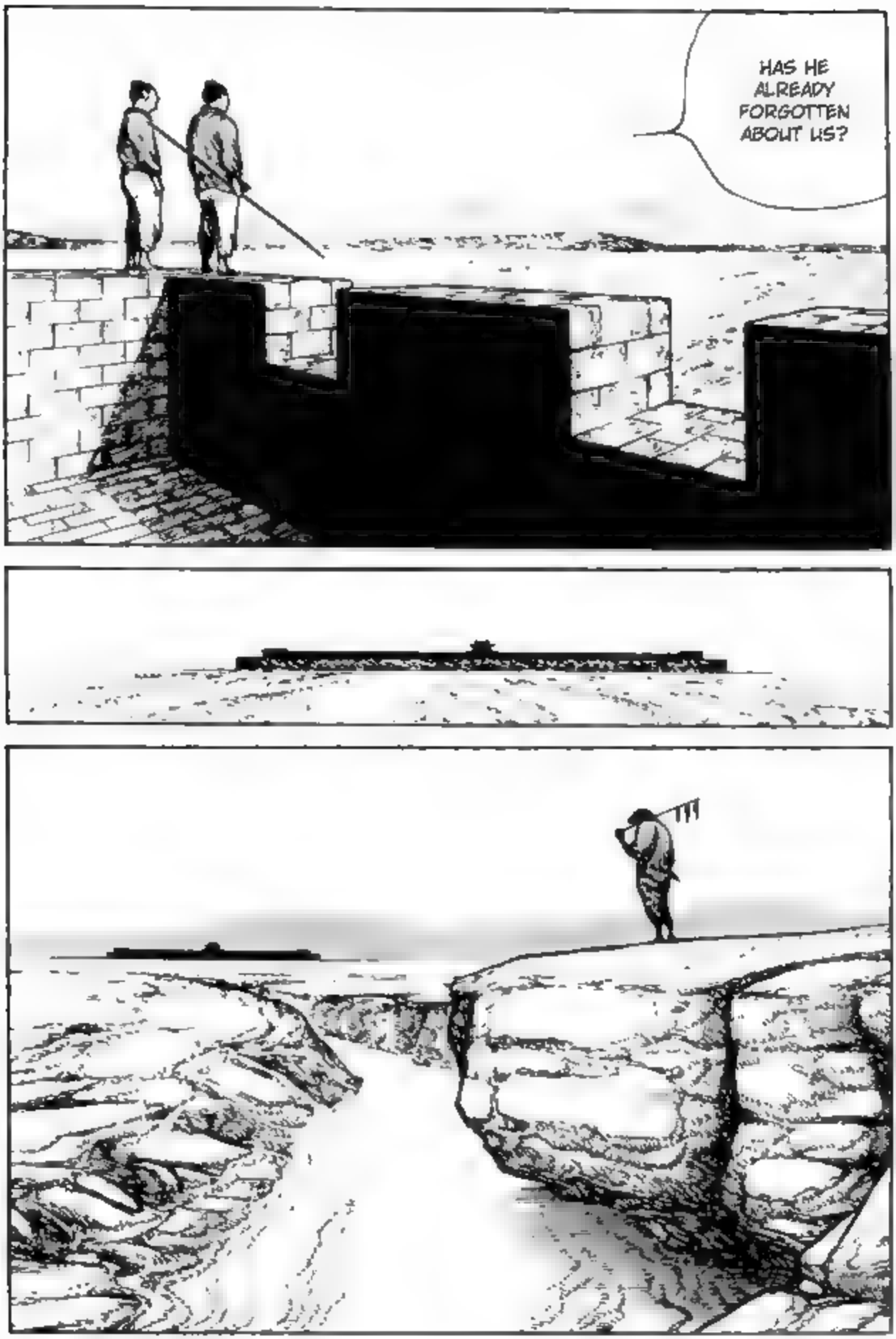
TELL ME YOUR NAME!
.....
SAIKYU, AT YOUR COMMAND!
WHILE KAKURI WAS STILL HERE THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO ALWAYS GOT TO BE IN COMMAND
THAT WAS YOU, RIGHT?
DID THAT PLEASE YOU?
.....

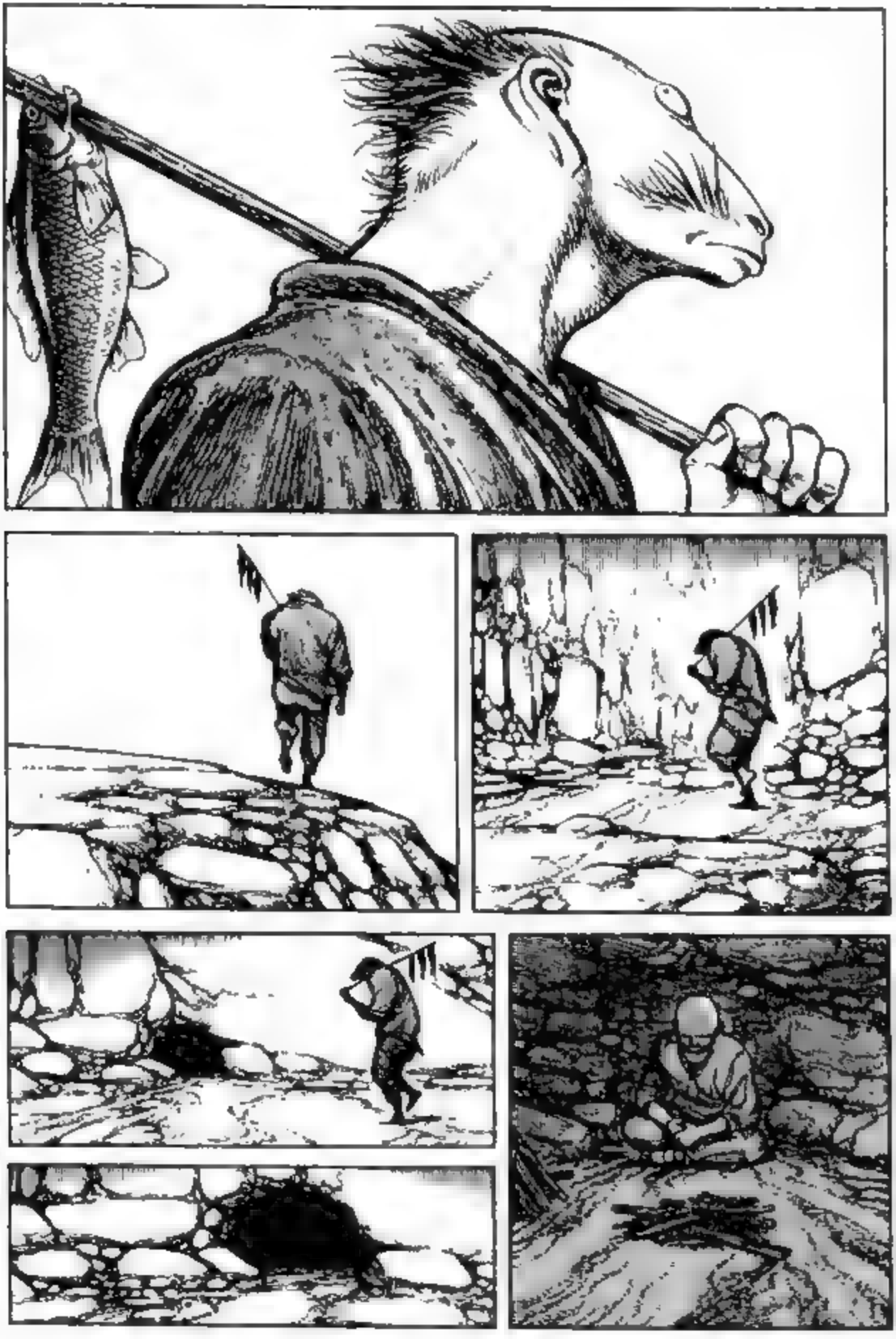
I'M JUST AN ORDINARY PEASANT
ALL I DID WAS TO FOLLOW THE ORDERS OF MISTER KAKURI!
KAKURI IS NO LONGER HERE!
FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL ALL DO WHAT I TELL YOU TO!
YES, SIR!
THOSE WHO'LL KEEP ON SAYING THAT MY FATHER MADE A MISTAKE BY FORCING KAKURI TO LEAVE OUR CITY WILL ALL BE PUNISHED!

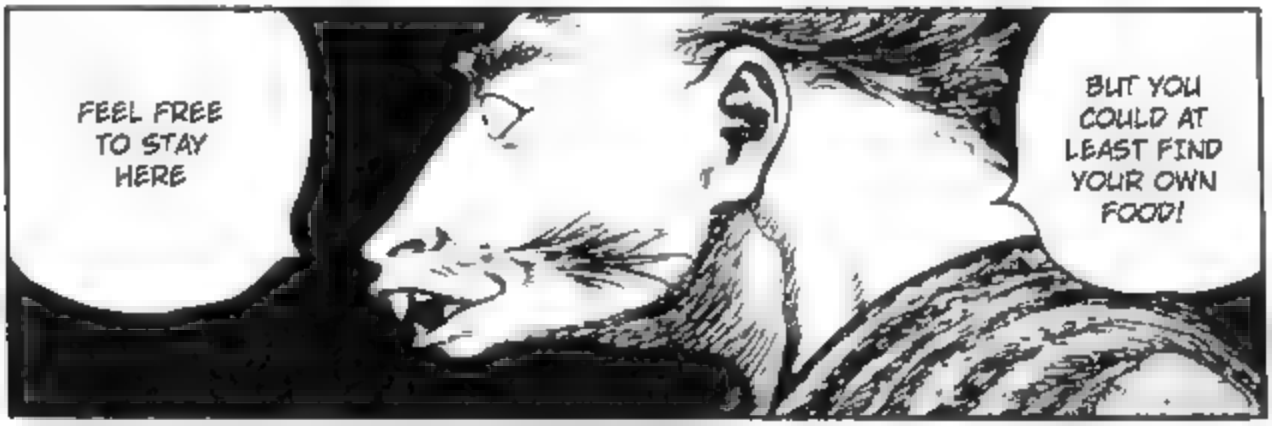

OUR KING HAS LEARNED A LOT DURING THIS WAR!
HE NOW KNOWS THAT THIS CITY MUST BE DEFENDED BY IT'S OWN PEOPLE
NOW, IT IS I WHO IS IN COMMAND. DO AS I SAY, AND YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!
DZA
DZA
BWA HAHA! HA HA HA

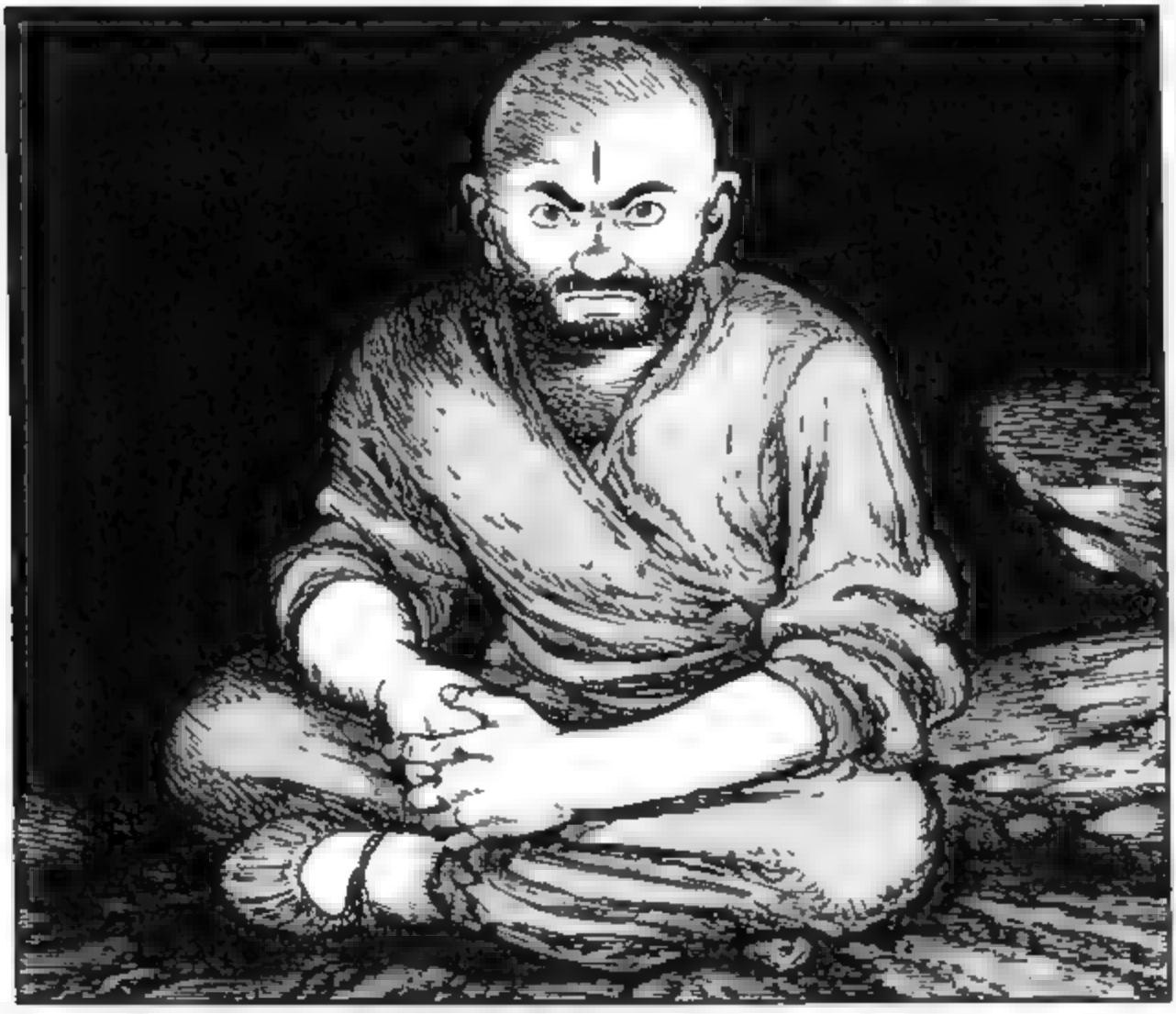
GHYA
HYA
WAH
BWA HA HA HA
HA-HA! I'VE GOT YOU!
POUTCH
I WILL NEVER SUPPORT ANOTHER BLOODTHIRSTY MAN, LIKE KAKURI. HE WASTED MY TIME!
I HOPE HE'LL BURN IN HELL!

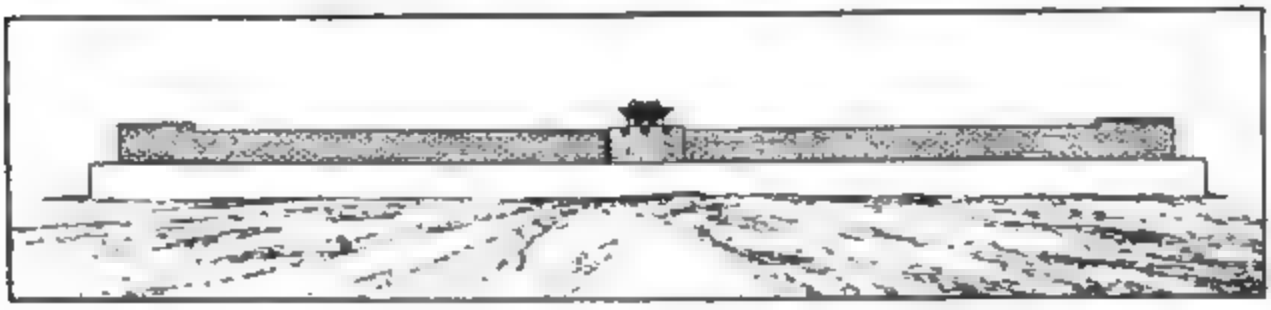

AFTER ALL, THERE'S ONLY TWO THOUSAND SOLDIERS LEFT IN TCHO'S ARMY!
THEY'RE PATHETIC! HA HA!!
COME HERE SO I CAN SOAK YOUR LITTLE BODY IN SALIVA! HAHAHA!!
DIE!
I WONDER WHERE KAKURI MIGHT BE NOW ...

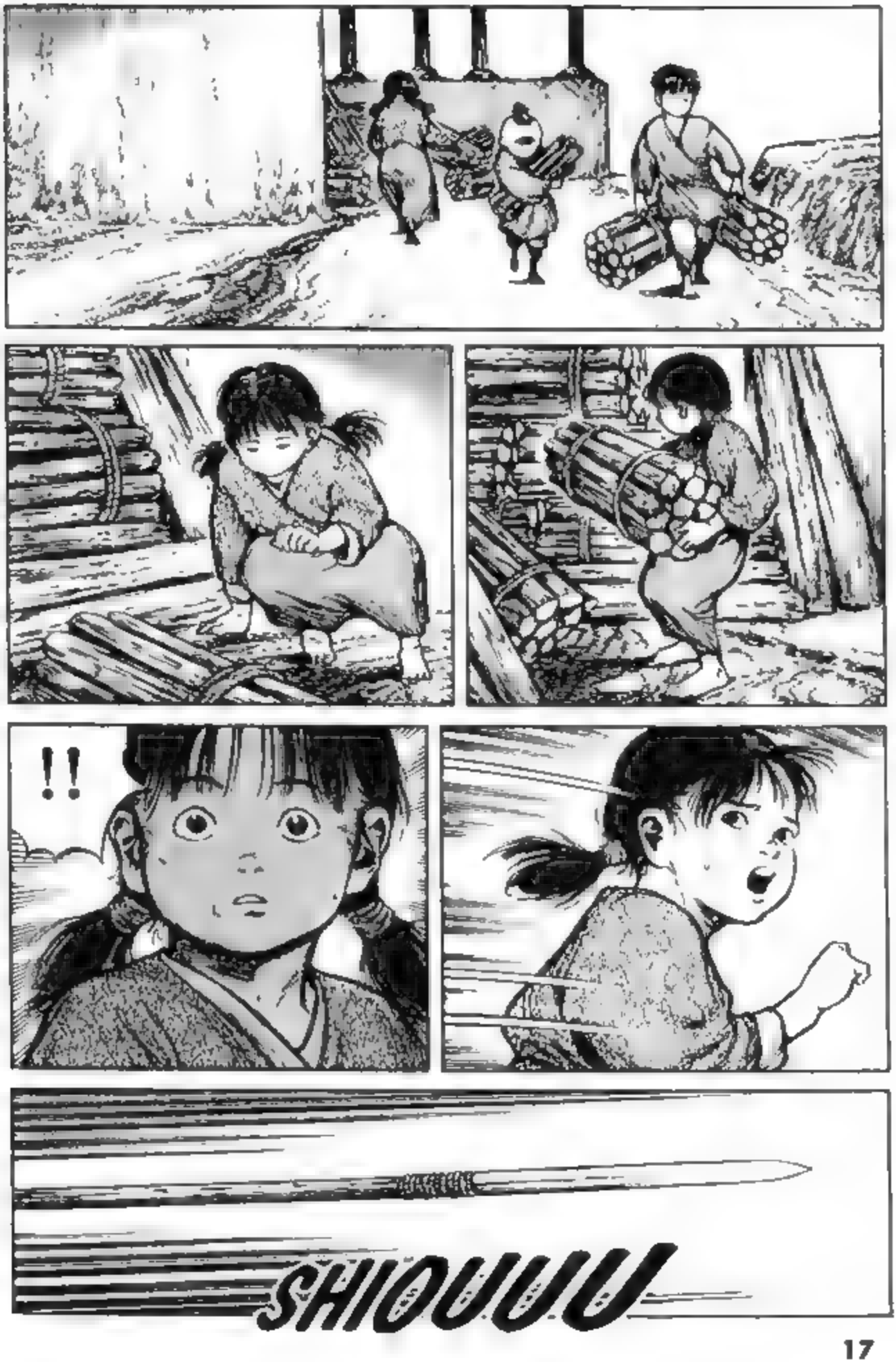

HAS HE ALREADY FORGOTTEN ABOUT US?



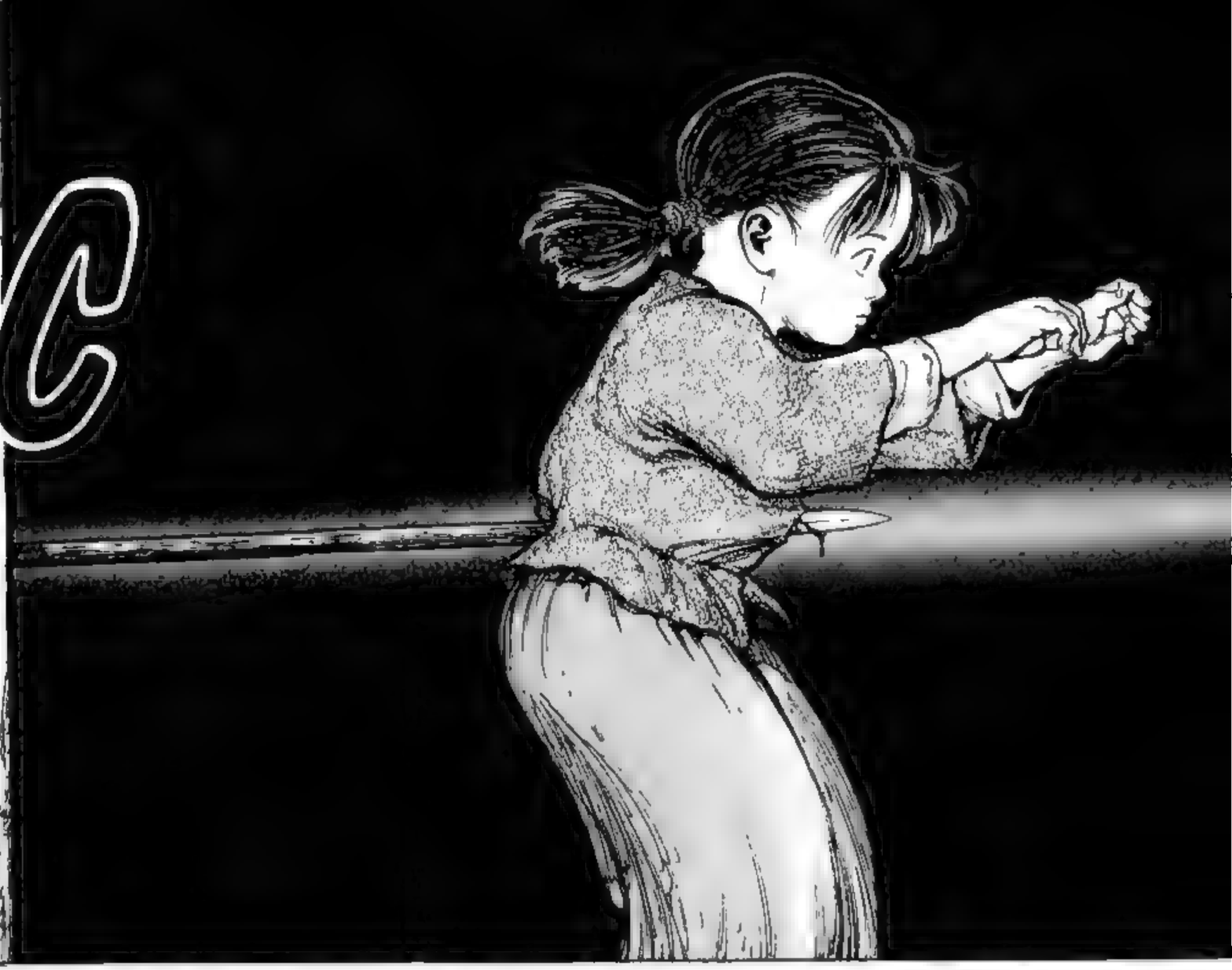

FEEL FREE TO STAY HERE
BUT YOU COULD AT LEAST FIND YOUR OWN FOOD!

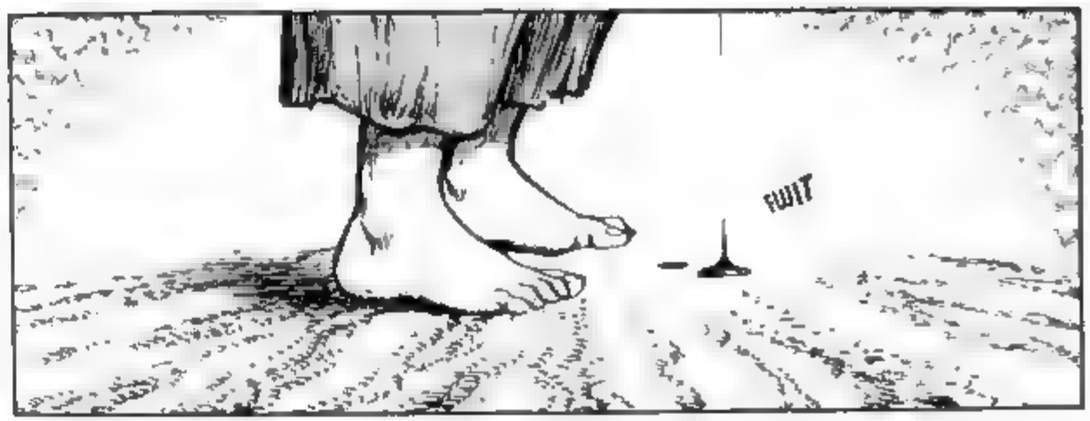


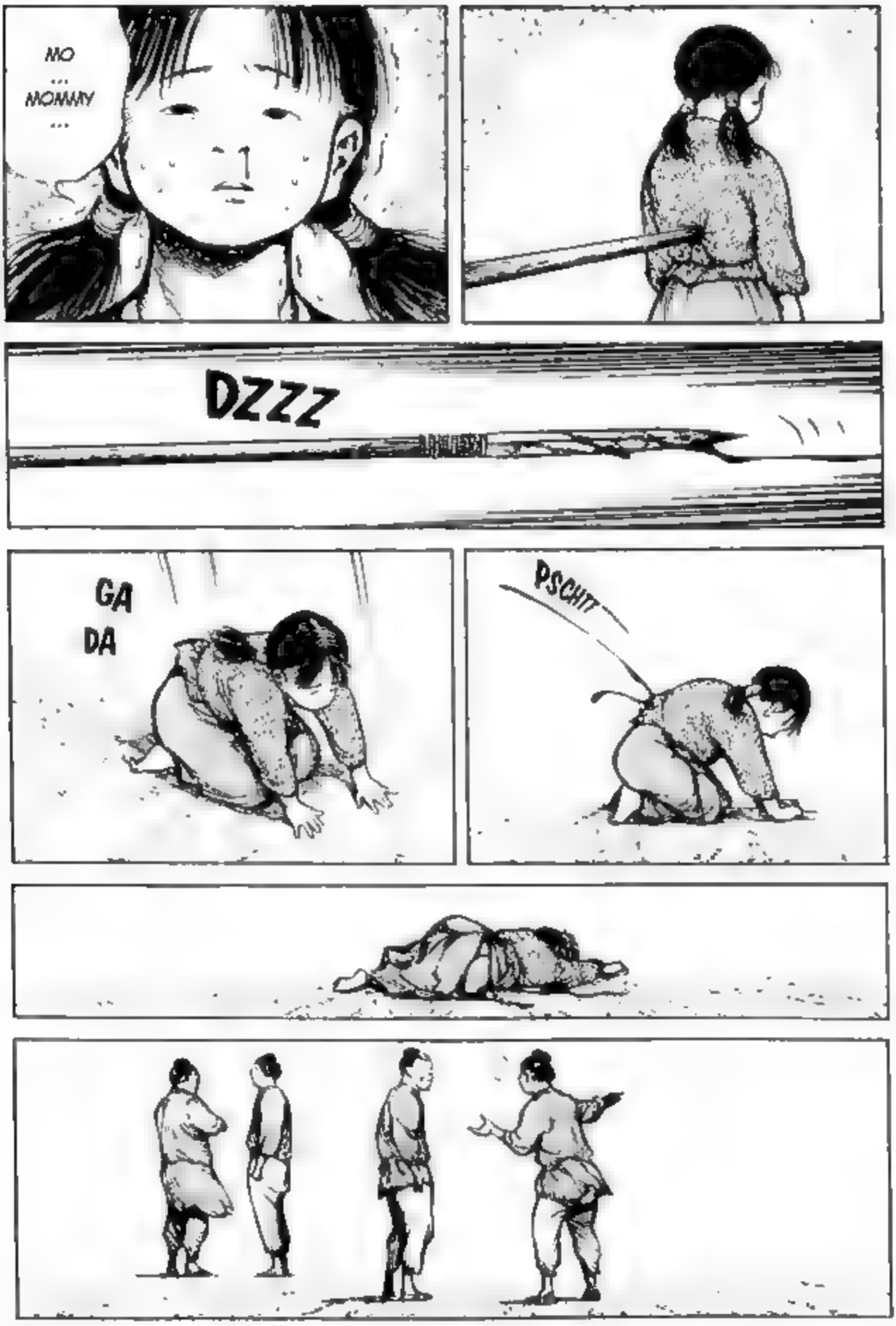


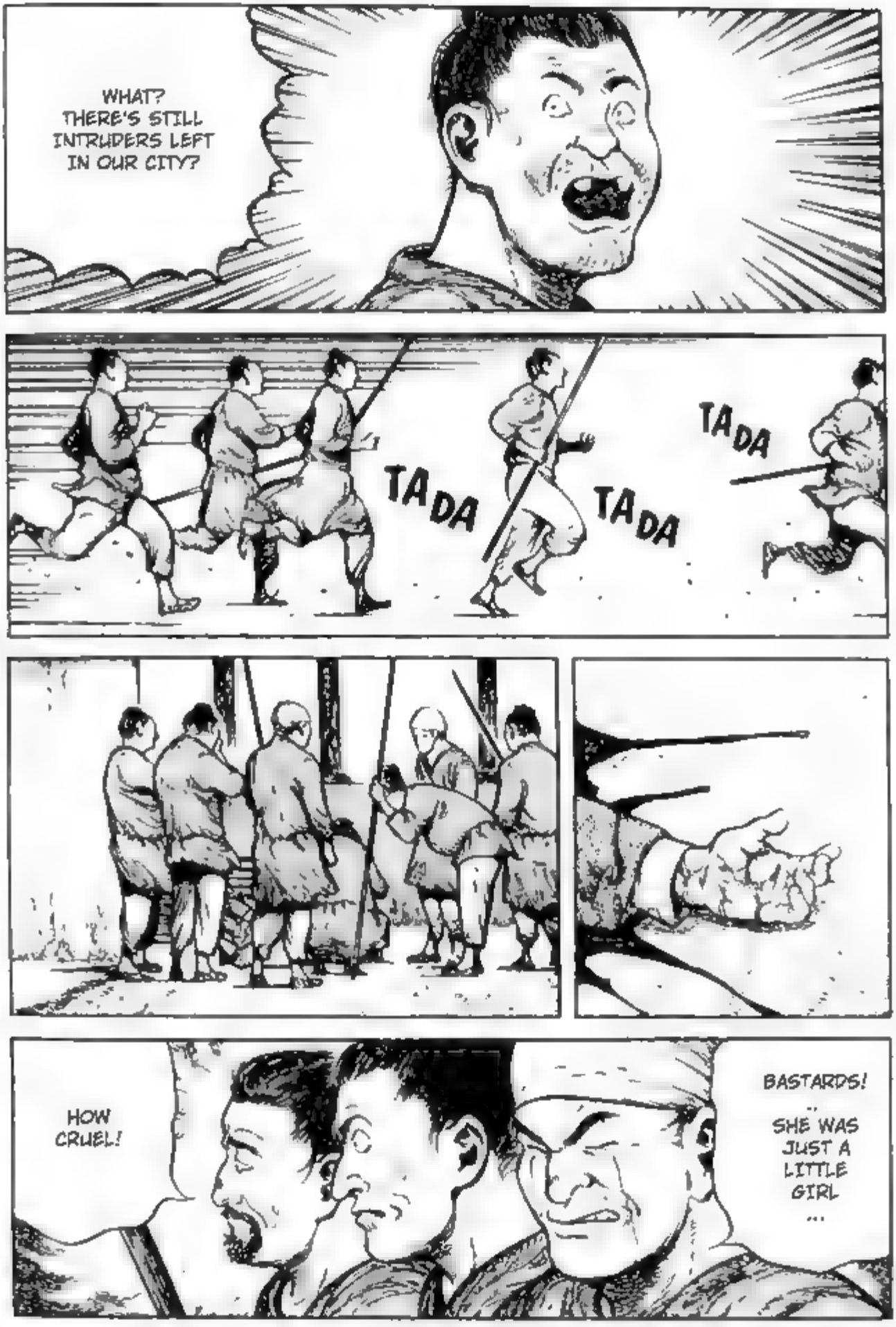

!!
SHIOUUU

ICHOC






MO
...
MOMMY
...
DZZZ
GA
DA
PSCHIT


WHAT? THERE'S STILL INTRUDERS LEFT IN OUR CITY?
TA DA
TA DA
TA DA
HOW CRUEL!
BASTARDS! .. SHE WAS JUST A LITTLE GIRL ...

IT MUST HAVE BEEN INTRUDERS ...
HIDDEN IN OUR WOODSHED
WHEN DID THEY ENTER OUR CITY?
THEY MUST HAVE SNUCK THEIR WAY IN WHEN WE REPAIRED THE WALLS
WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'RE UP TO
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DZA
DZA.
DZA.
OH!

HOW MANY OF THEM ARE THERE?
HOW WOULD I KNOW?
.....
PRINCE RYOTEKI, WHAT SHALL WE DO?
HOW WILL WE FIND THEM?
PRINCE RYOTEKI!
PRINCE!

EUH
...
P-PRINCE
...
I THINK THAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND THEM!

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CHAPTER 02
SAIKYU'S TRIAL

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FUCKING BASTARDS!
MORE INTRUDERS?
HOW MANY WILL THEY BE THIS TIME? SHIT ...
NOW THEY'LL KNOW THAT KAKURI IS NO LONGER HERE TO HELP US

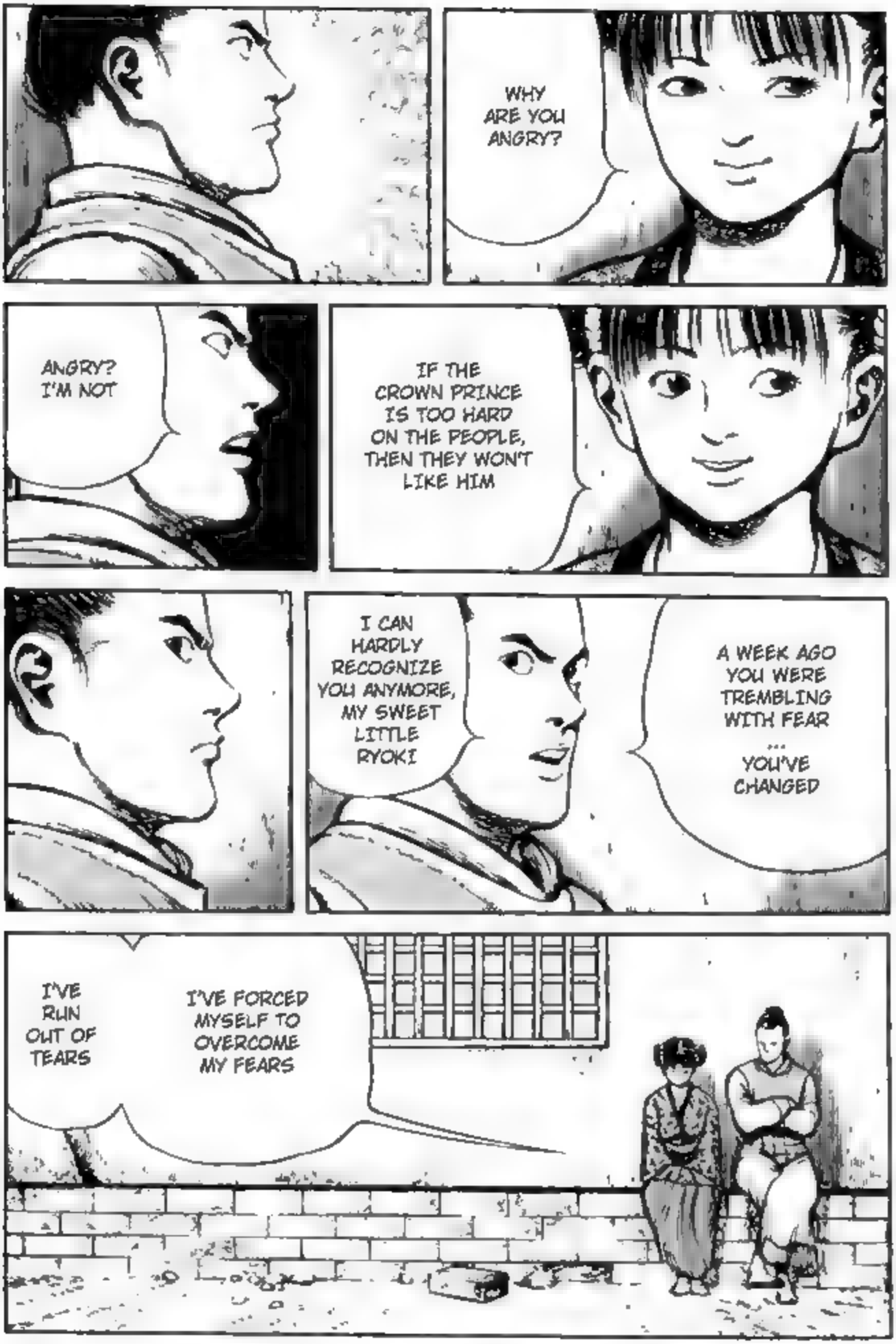
THEY'VE PROBABLY BEEN HIDING IN HERE!
NO! DON'T GO THERE!
!?
PRINCE, LET ME FIND THEM FOR YOU!
SAIKYU, THAT'S NOT THE WAY YOU SPEAK TO A PRINCE!
WITHOUT KNOWING HOW MANY THEY ARE, YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN FIND THEM?

YOU CAN ESTIMATE HOW MANY THEY ARE BY EXAMINING THE FOOTPRINTS IN THE WOOD-SHED
OH!
GOOD! LET US GO AND SEE WHAT WE CAN FIND OUT
THEY GO IN ALL DIRECTIONS, THIS ISN'T USEFUL AT ALL!
DIZ
THERE'S AT LEAST THREE OF THEM!

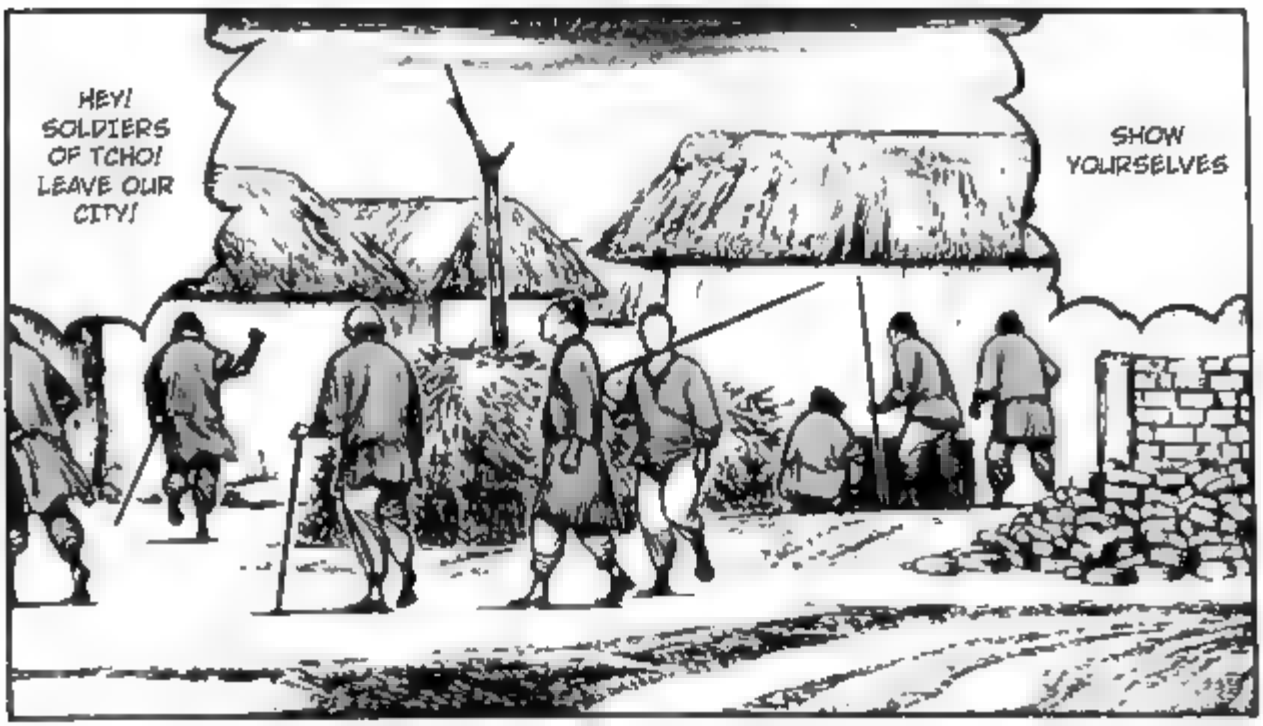
HOW CAN YOU TELL!?
LOOK
THE FOOTPRINTS LOOKS ALMOST THE SAME, BUT ONE OF THEM HAS USED HIS SPEAR TO SUPPORT HIMSELF
THE OTHER ONES VARY IN SHAPE AND FORM. THEREFORE, THERE MUST BE AT LEAST THREE OF THEM!
BRILLIANT!
SO MAY BE ... BUT WE STILL NEED TO FIND THEM
IT IS NECESSARY THAT EVERYONE PARTICIPATES IN SEARCHING FOR THEM THROUGH THE WHOLE CITY
IS THERE NO BETTER WAY?
DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG IT MIGHT BE BEFORE WE FIND THEM?

I THINK THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO FIND THEM BEFORE TOMORROW MORNING!
S-SAIKYU ... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
OK, IF YOU SAY SO, THEN START THE SEARCH RIGHT NOW!
AS YOU COMMAND
DZA DZA
YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE JUST A SIMPLE PEASANT?
AND IF YOU DON'T FIND THEM TONIGHT ... DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN?

AND EVEN IF WE CATCH THEM BY TOMORROW MORNING, I DON'T THINK THAT RYOTEKI WILL BE SATISFIED
YOU'RE RISKING YOUR HEAD IF YOU DEFY PRINCE RYOTEKI
.....
I ONLY WANT THIS WAR TO COME TO AN END
NOTHING MORE


WHY ARE YOU ANGRY?
ANGRY? I'M NOT
IF THE CROWN PRINCE IS TOO HARD ON THE PEOPLE, THEN THEY WON'T LIKE HIM
I CAN HARDLY RECOGNIZE YOU ANYMORE, MY SWEET LITTLE RYOKI
A WEEK AGO YOU WERE TREMBLING WITH FEAR ... YOU'VE CHANGED
I'VE RUN OUT OF TEARS
I'VE FORCED MYSELF TO OVERCOME MY FEARS

DIFFICULTIES CAN EITHER DESTROY YOU OR GIVE YOU STRENGTH
...
I BELIEVE THAT I'VE BECOME STRONGER
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T CHANGED?
YOU HAVE ALSO CHANGED
...
YOU NEVER SMILE ANYMORE
SMILE! IF YOU DO, THEN YOUR FEAR WILL GO AWAY, AND THE PEOPLE'S FEAR WILL ALSO DISAPPEAR
THE SMILE OF A PRINCE IS IRREPLACEABLE, IT IS SOMETHING THAT ONLY YOU CAN GIVE THEM!


HEY! SOLDIERS OF TCHO! LEAVE OUR CITY!
SHOW YOURSELVES

EVENING HAS COME AND WE HAVEN'T FOUND A SINGLE ONE OF THEM YET!

I NEVER EXPECTED TO FIND THEM HERE!

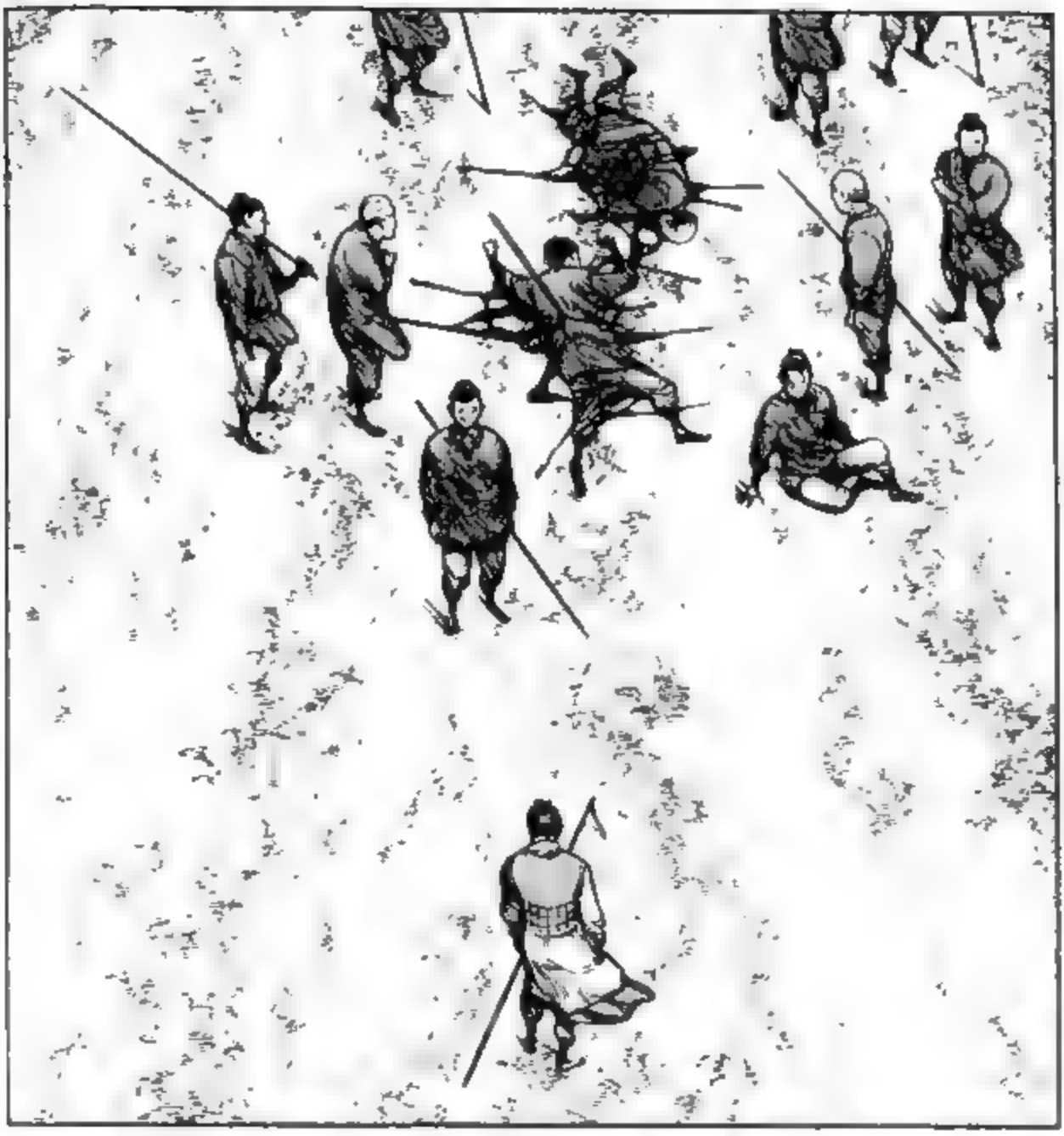
DON'T SAY THAT, SAIKYU! YOU MIGHT LOSE YOUR HEAD!

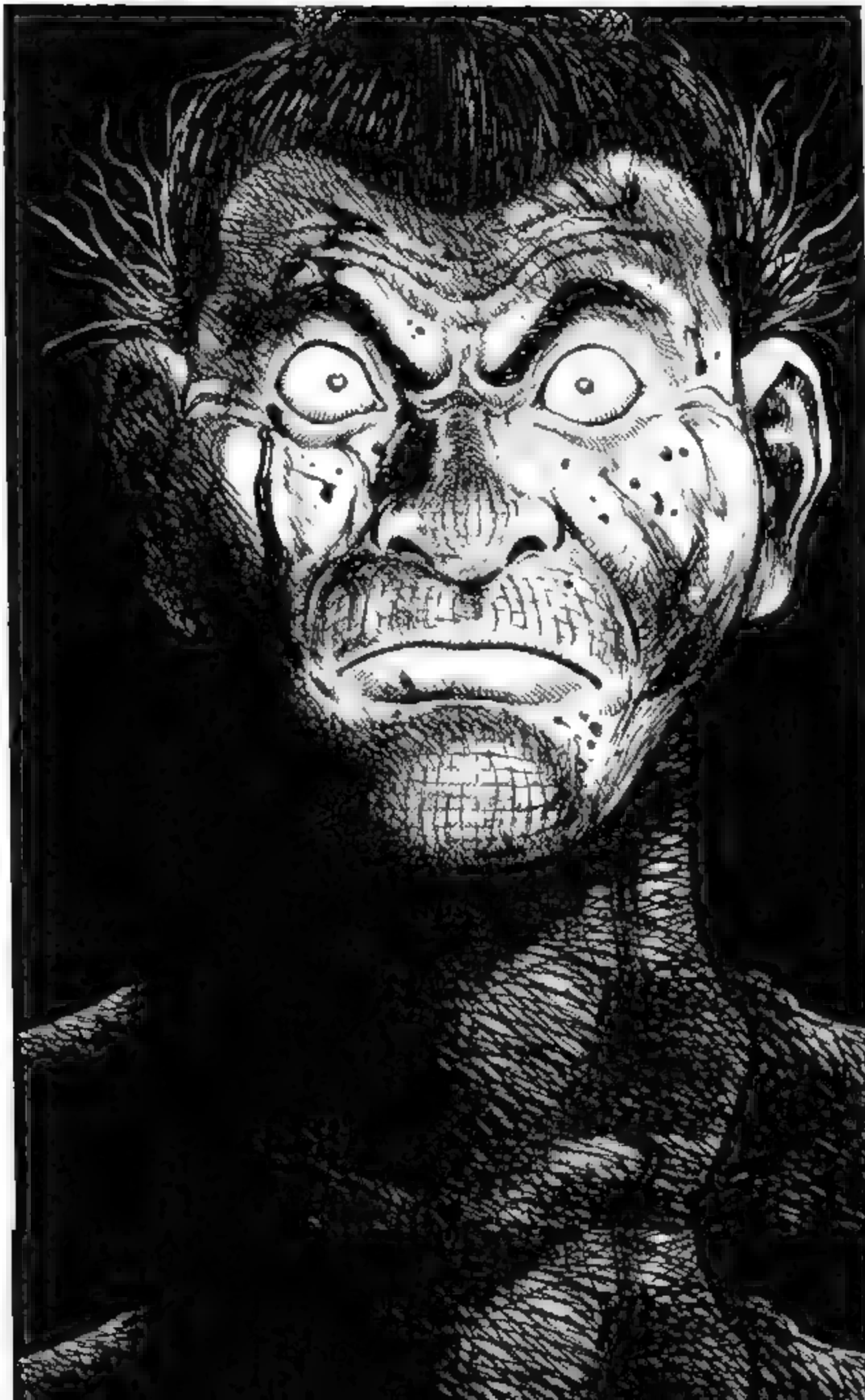
THE PEASANTS ARE ALL MORONS!
THEY NEVER THOUGH THAT WE WOULD RETURN
TO A PLACE WHERE THEY'VE ALREADY BEEN!
I'VE HEARD SOME ODD THINGS!
THEY EVEN SAY THAT KAKURI HAS LEFT THE CITY
.....

IF IT IS TRUE, THEN I THINK THAT GENERAL KOENTCHU WOULD BE HAPPY TO HEAR ABOUT IT
WE CAN CHECK IT OUT TOMORROW,
INTRUDERS! GET ON OUT OF THERE!

THE WOODSHED IS SURROUNDED! YOU WON'T STAND A CHANCE!
I GAVE MY MEN SPECIFIC ORDERS TO TIGHTEN THE SECURITY AROUND THE WOODSHED!
DAHAH
FUCKING HELL!
NOW! ATTACK THEM!

GHYA WAHAH
I HEAR SOMEONE SHOUTING
IT'S SAIKYU, HE FOUND THE INTRUDERS!
GHYA WAH
WHAT ?
DAHAH





I'VE FAILED, I ONLY GOT TWO OF THEM

SAIKYU, YOU DID WELL!
HUH?
I'LL LET YOU BE IN CHARGE OF FINDING THE REST OF THEM
AS ... YOU COMMAND!
HUM
DZA
DZA
DZA

OH! WAS THAT A SMILE I SAW ON PRINCE RYOTEKI'S LIPS?
PRINCE RYOTEKI SMILED!
OH!
OH!
SAIKYU, YOU LUCKY BASTARD!!
WAH WAH WAH

HOWEVER, NOT EVEN
SAIKYU HIMSELF COULD
TELL HOW MANY
THE REMAINING
INTRUDERS WERE

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CHAPTER 03

THE PEOPLE FEEL RELIEF

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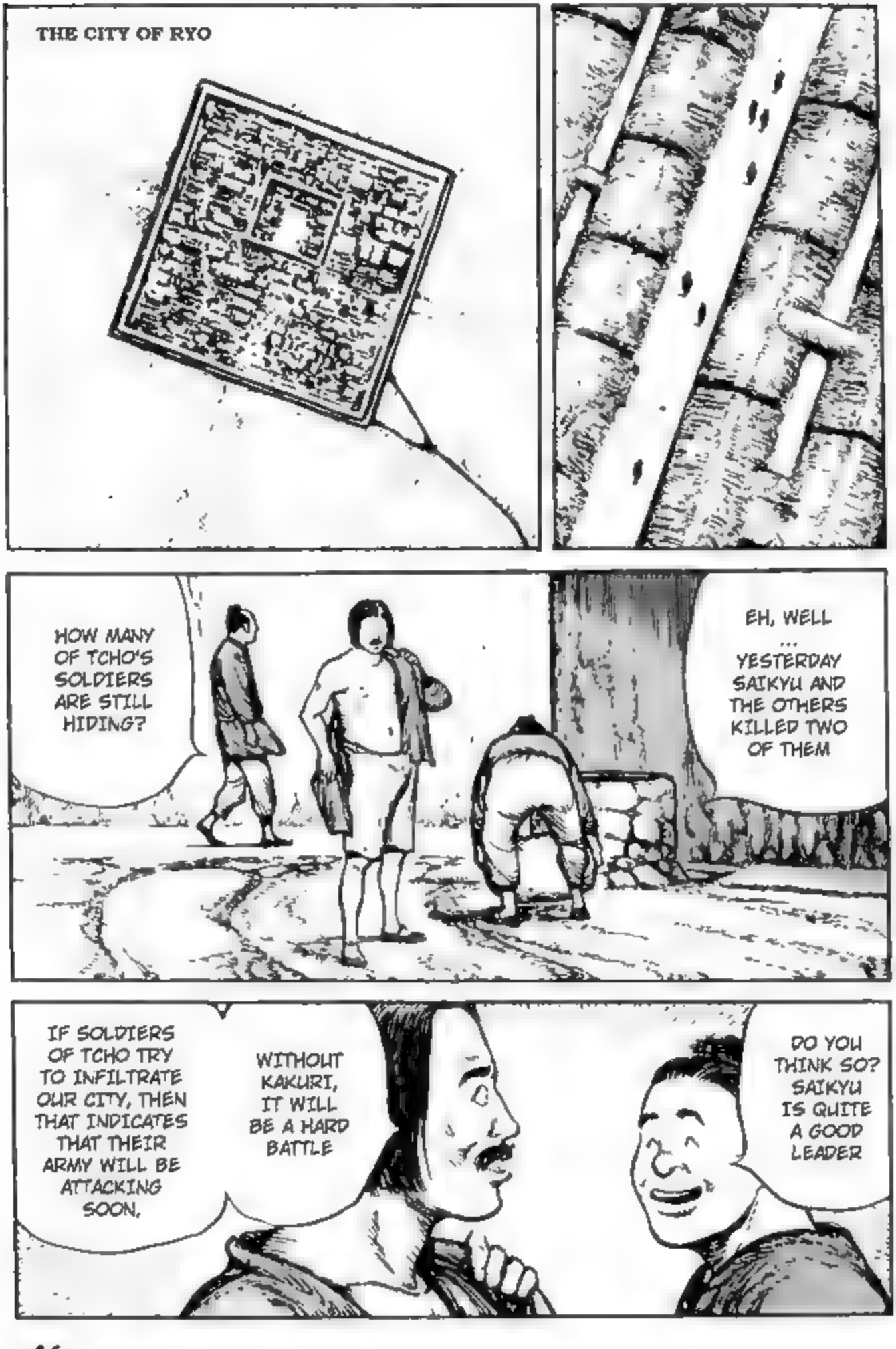
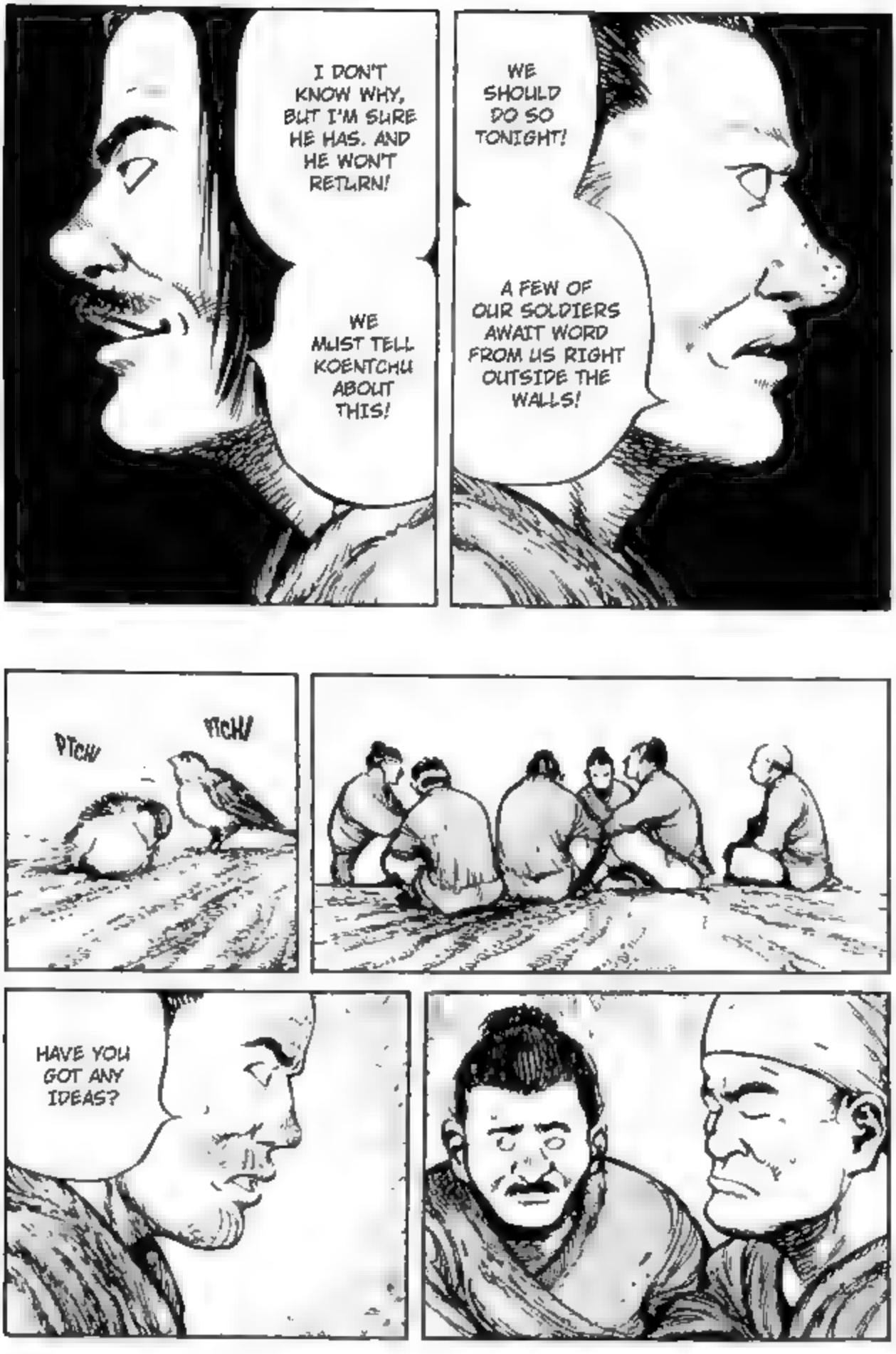
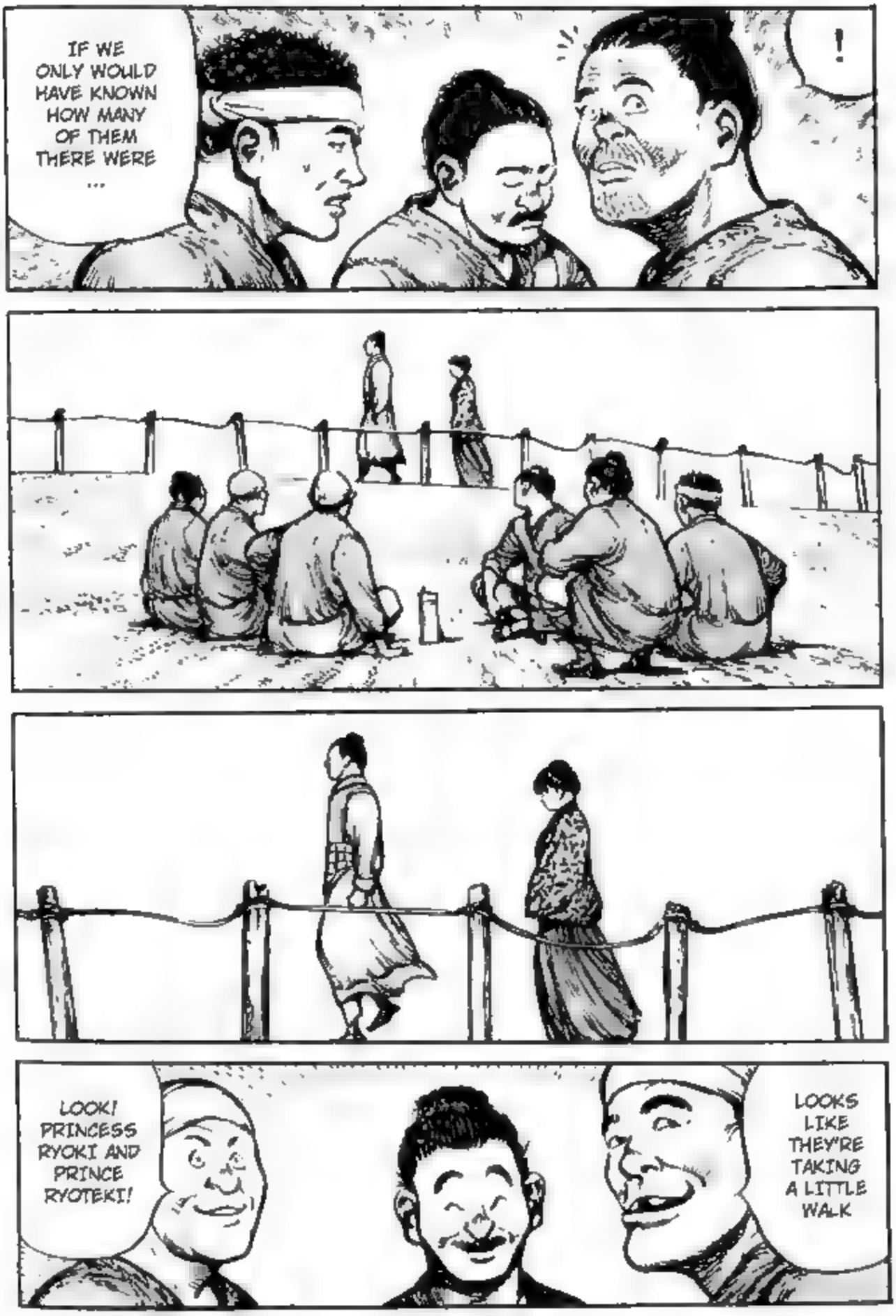
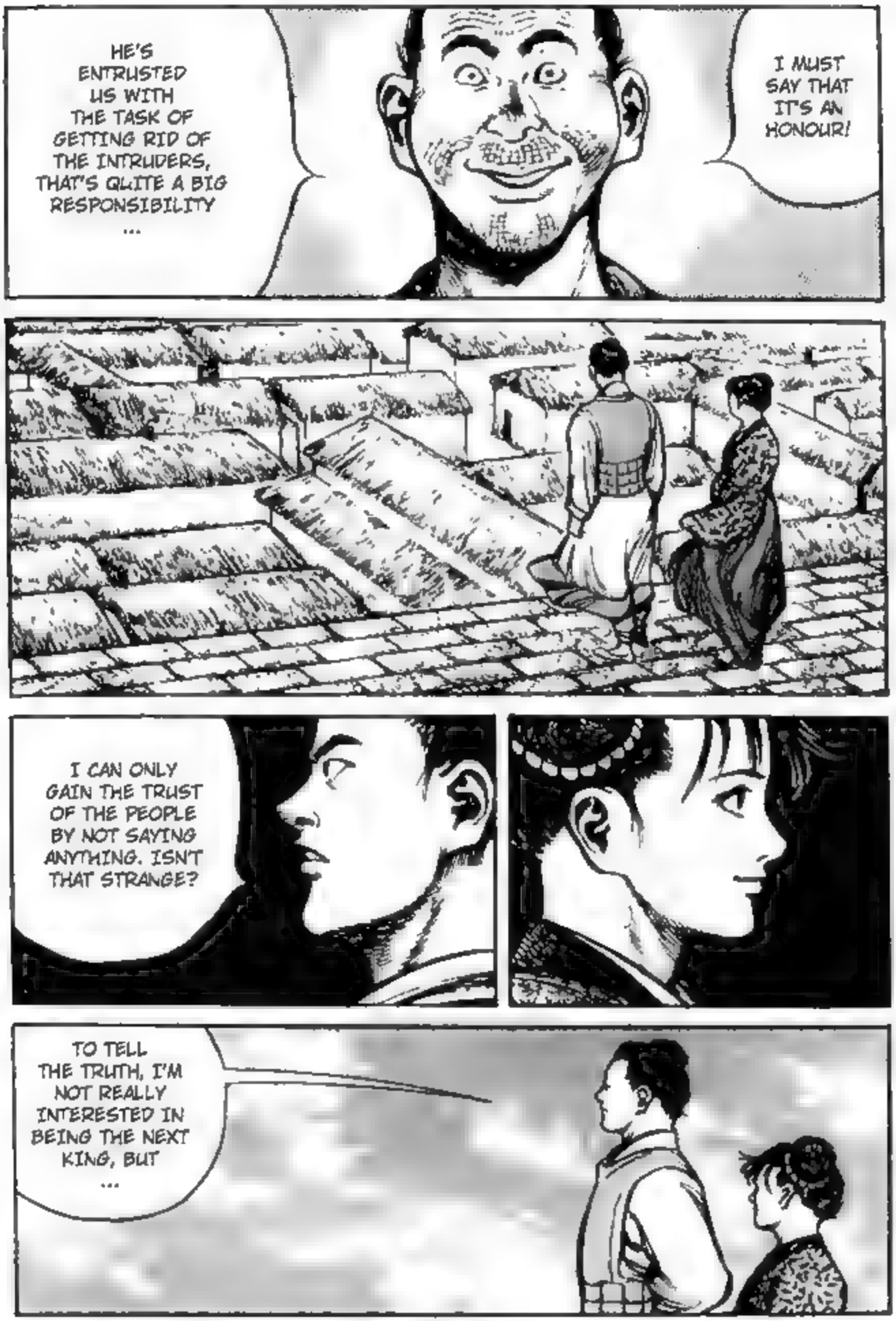

THE CITY OF RYO
HOW MANY OF TCHO'S SOLDIERS ARE STILL HIDING?
EH, WELL ... YESTERDAY SAIKYU AND THE OTHERS KILLED TWO OF THEM
IF SOLDIERS OF TCHO TRY TO INFILTRATE OUR CITY, THEN THAT INDICATES THAT THEIR ARMY WILL BE ATTACKING SOON.
WITHOUT KAKURI, IT WILL BE A HARD BATTLE
DO YOU THINK SO? SAIKYU IS QUITE A GOOD LEADER

DZA
DZA
DZA
SAIKYU, HOW DO YOU PLAN TO FIND THE OTHERS?
SHUI
SHUI
SHUI
I WONDER IF HE'S GOT ANOTHER TRICK UP HIS SLEEVE?
DZA
DZA
DZA
KAKURI HAS INDEED LEFT THE CITY
?
.....


I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'M SURE HE HAS. AND HE WON'T RETURN!
WE MUST TELL KOENTCHU ABOUT THIS!
WE SHOULD DO SO TONIGHT!
A FEW OF OUR SOLDIERS AWAIT WORD FROM US RIGHT OUTSIDE THE WALLS!
PTCH/
PTCH/
HAVE YOU GOT ANY IDEAS?

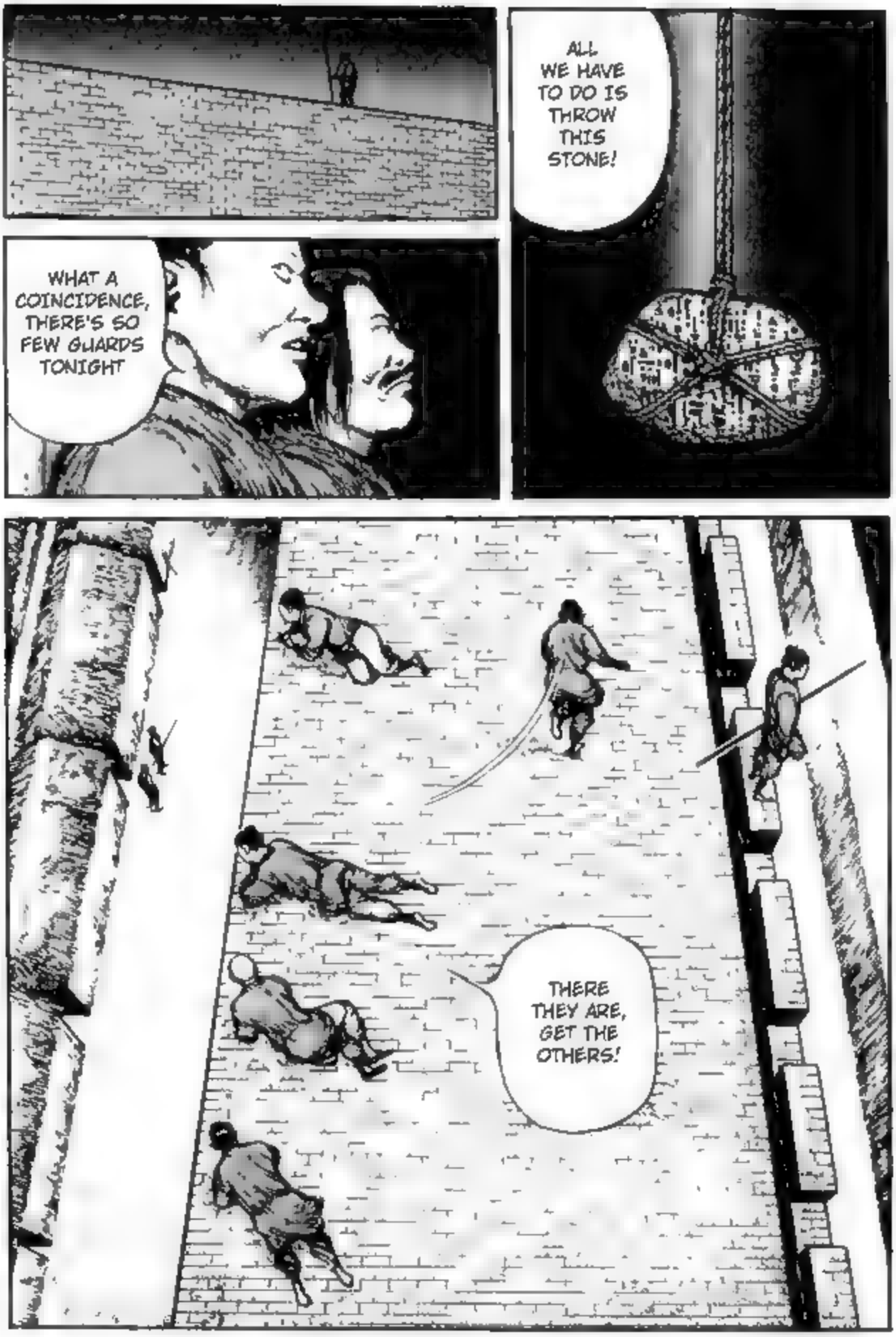

IF WE ONLY WOULD HAVE KNOWN HOW MANY OF THEM THERE WERE ...
!
LOOK! PRINCESS RYOKI AND PRINCE RYOTEKI!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE TAKING A LITTLE WALK


HE'S ENTRUSTED US WITH THE TASK OF GETTING RID OF THE INTRUDERS, THAT'S QUITE A BIG RESPONSIBILITY ...
I MUST SAY THAT IT'S AN HONOUR!
I CAN ONLY GAIN THE TRUST OF THE PEOPLE BY NOT SAYING ANYTHING. ISN'T THAT STRANGE?
TO TELL THE TRUTH, I'M NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN BEING THE NEXT KING, BUT ...

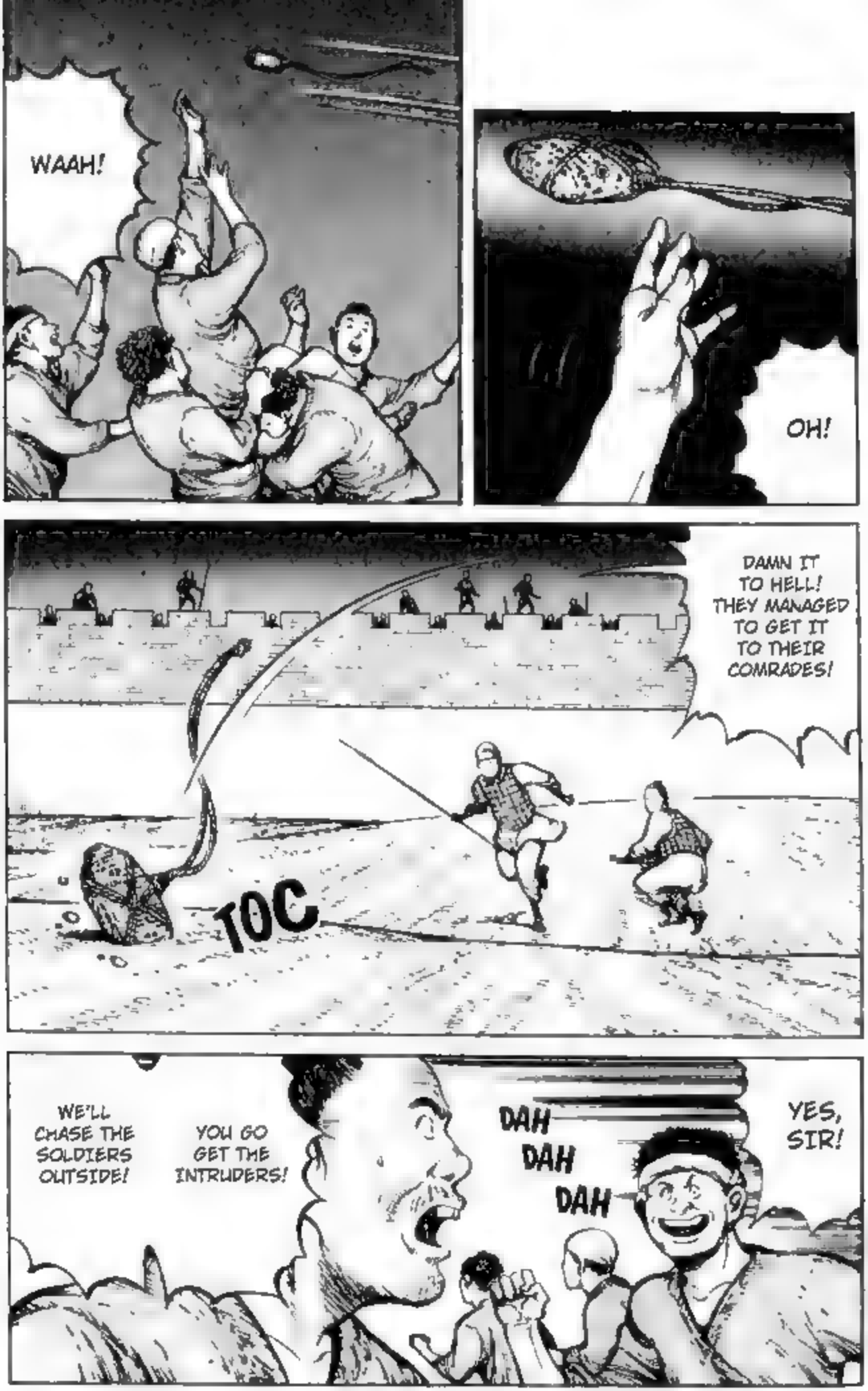
I'M STARTING TO LIKE THIS CITY!
WHAT? ARROWS?
THAT'S RIGHT!
THE SPY'S TASK IS TO SPREAD PANIC IN THE CITY, BUT ALSO TO GATHER INFORMATION FOR THEIR ARMY
I'M SURE THEY'RE QUITE EAGER TO TELL KOENTCHU THAT KAKURI IS NOT HERE ANYMORE
BUT THE GATES ARE LOCKED, WHAT WOULD YOU DO IN THEIR SITUATION?
I WOULD USE AN ARROW TO SEND
A CODED MESSAGE

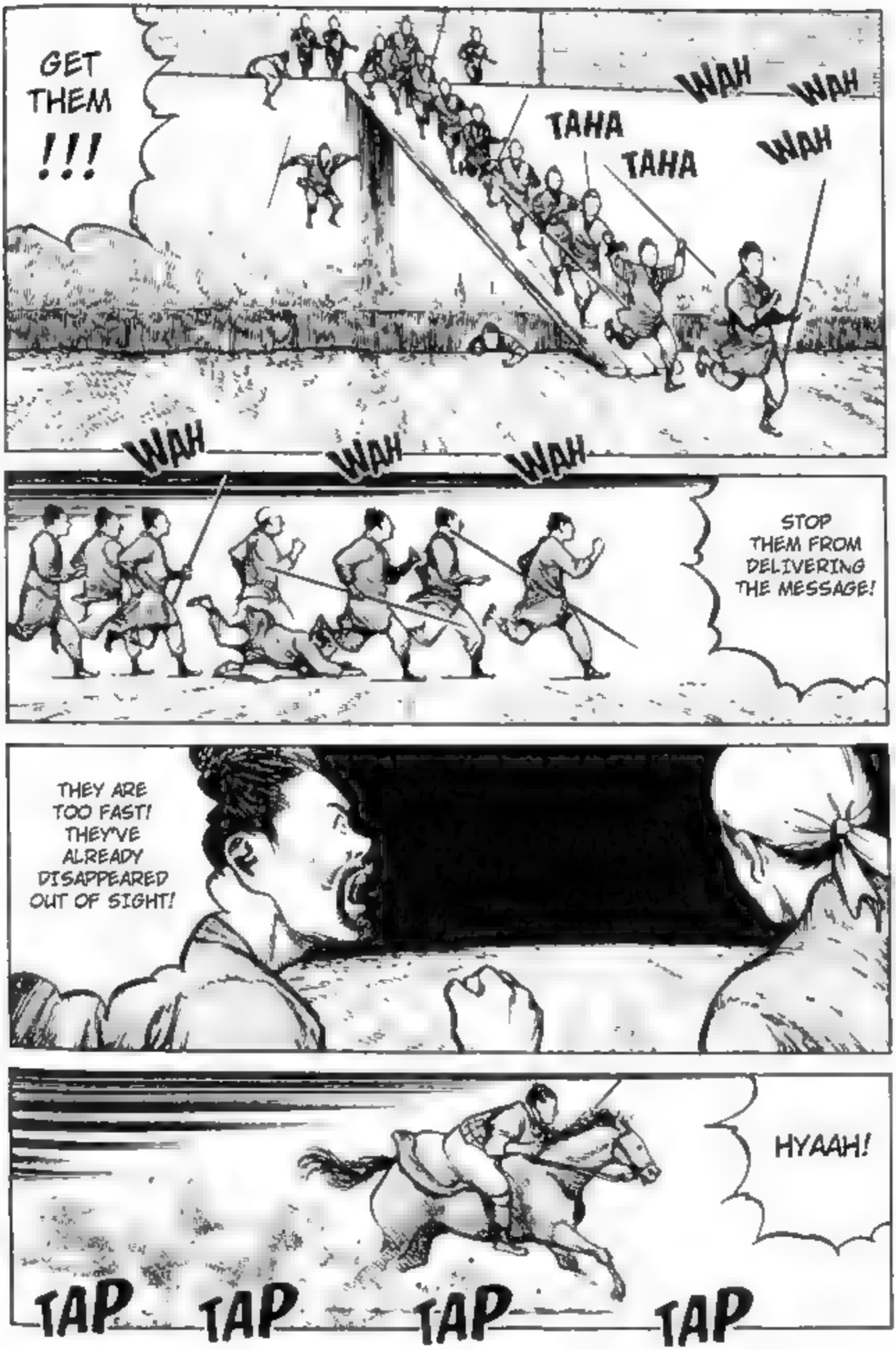
OF COURSE!
LET'S HAVE LESS GUARDS GUARDING THE WALLS
THEN THEY WILL SURELY TAKE THE RISK AND SEND THEIR MESSAGE ON AN ARROW
THAT IS WHEN WE'LL CATCH THEM!
THIS ARROW CAN NOT BE ALLOWED TO REACH THEIR CAMP!
THEY MUSTN'T KNOW THAT KAKURI HAS LEFT US!

HOW ODD! THERE'S ONLY A FEW GUARDS!
PFFT!
THEY MUST HAVE KICKED YOU OUT OF THEIR CITY SO THEY WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK AS MUCH
DAHAH


ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS THROW THIS STONE!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE, THERE'S SO FEW GUARDS TONIGHT
THERE THEY ARE, GET THE OTHERS!

HYOU HYOU
THEY ARE OVER THERE!
SHIT! THROW IT ALREADY!
PREVENT THEM FROM DELIVERING THEIR MESSAGE!
DAH DAH DAH DAH
HUFF !!!
HOOK
HEY! THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE AN ARROW!
IDIOT! OF COURSE IT'S NOT, WHY WOULD HE THROW AN ARROW?


WAAH!
OH!
DAMN IT TO HELL! THEY MANAGED TO GET IT TO THEIR COMRADES!
TOC
WE'LL CHASE THE SOLDIERS OUTSIDE!
YOU GO GET THE INTRUDERS!
DAH DAH DAH
YES, SIR!


GET THEM !!!
WAH
WAH
TAHA
TAHA
WAH
WAH
WAH
WAH
STOP THEM FROM DELIVERING THE MESSAGE!
THEY ARE TOO FAST! THEY'VE ALREADY DISAPPEARED OUT OF SIGHT!
HYAAH!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
THEY'RE GAINING ON US!
AH AH AH AH
THIS MESSAGE MUST BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE!
ONE OF THEM HAS GOT A HORSE!
DOESN'T MATTER, WE HAVE HORSES TOO!

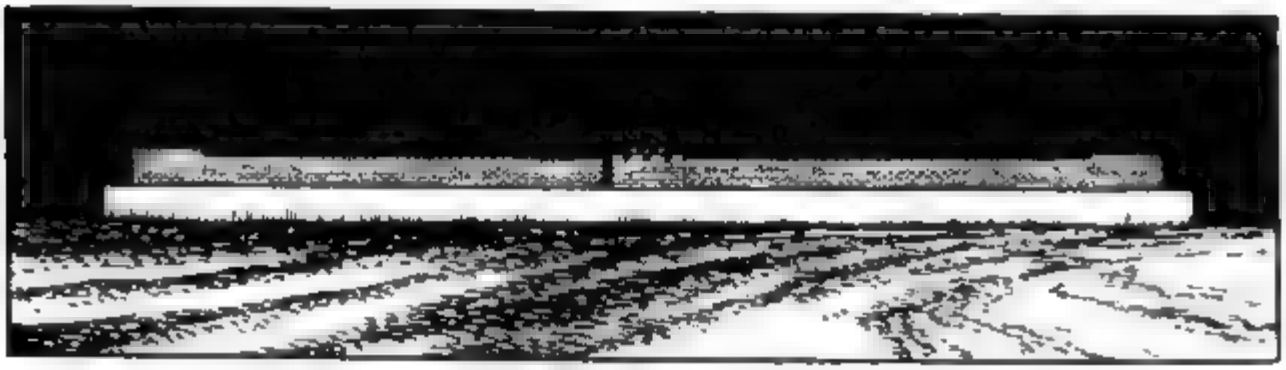
OVER THERE! WHO THE HELL IS THAT?
TAP
TAP
TAP
WAH
WAH
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
WAH
WAH
!?

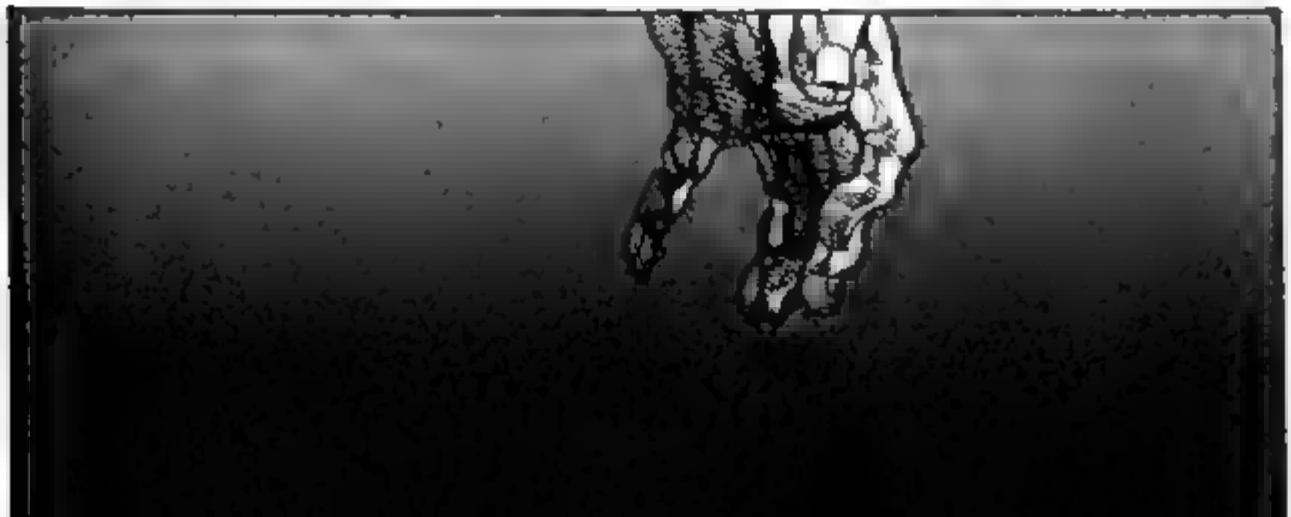
THEY ARE ALL ... DEAD!!
WHO THE HELL COULD HAVE KILLED THEM?

HERE IS THE STONE WITH THE MESSAGE!
YAY!
YAY!
AND ANOTHER GIFT: THEIR TWO HORSES!
COULD IT BE KAKURI?
PRINCE, WHO COULD'VE DONE THIS?
... I DO NOT KNOW
GO ON, WE'RE GOING BACK!
YES, SIR!
IT MUST'VE BEEN KAKURI ...
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, HE'S STILL TRYING TO HELP US

WHAT ABOUT THE INTRU-DERS?
THEY WERE AS SLIPPERY AS EELS, THEY ESCAPED!
SAIKYU, I BELIEVE THAT IT WAS KAKURI WHO KILLED THEM
I AM SURE THAT KAKURI IS CLOSE
DON'T TELL ANYONE!
HUH ?!?

IT IS IN THIS CITY THAT WE WILL LIVE ALL OUR LIFE
THE SUCCESSOR OF THE CURRENT KING WILL BE RYOTEKI AND THE PEOPLE LIKE HIM
IF KAKURI RETURNS, THEN WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN





KAKURI HAD RISKED HIS LIFE, TO DEFEND THE CITY
HOWEVER, EVEN SAIKYU HAD STARTED TO OPPOSE HIM
KAKURI WAS STILL UNAWARE OF IT ALL AND KEPT WATCHING OVER THE CITY

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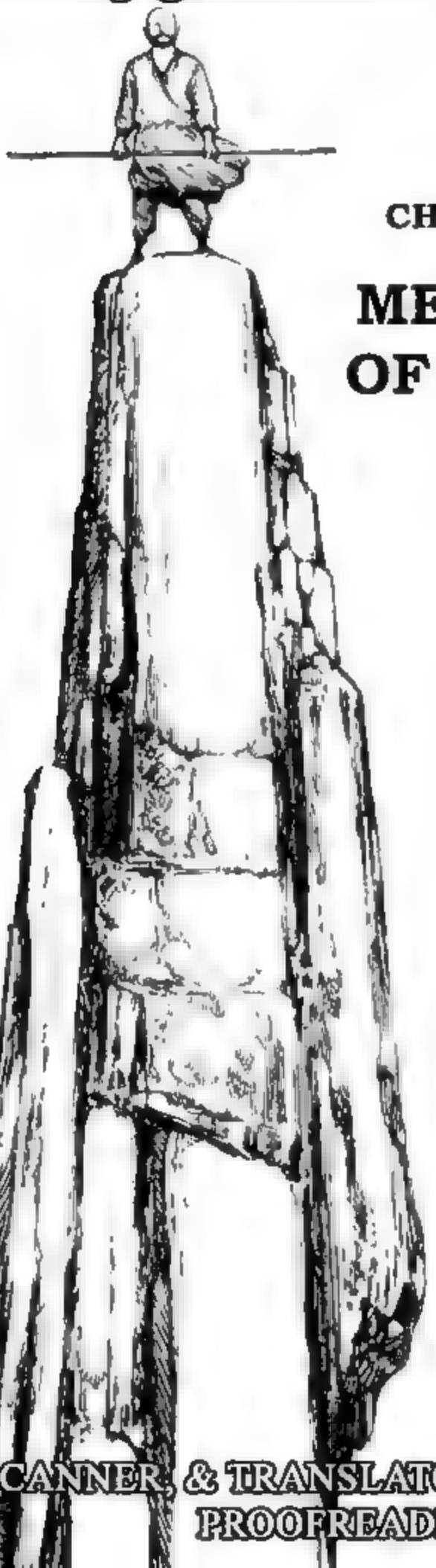
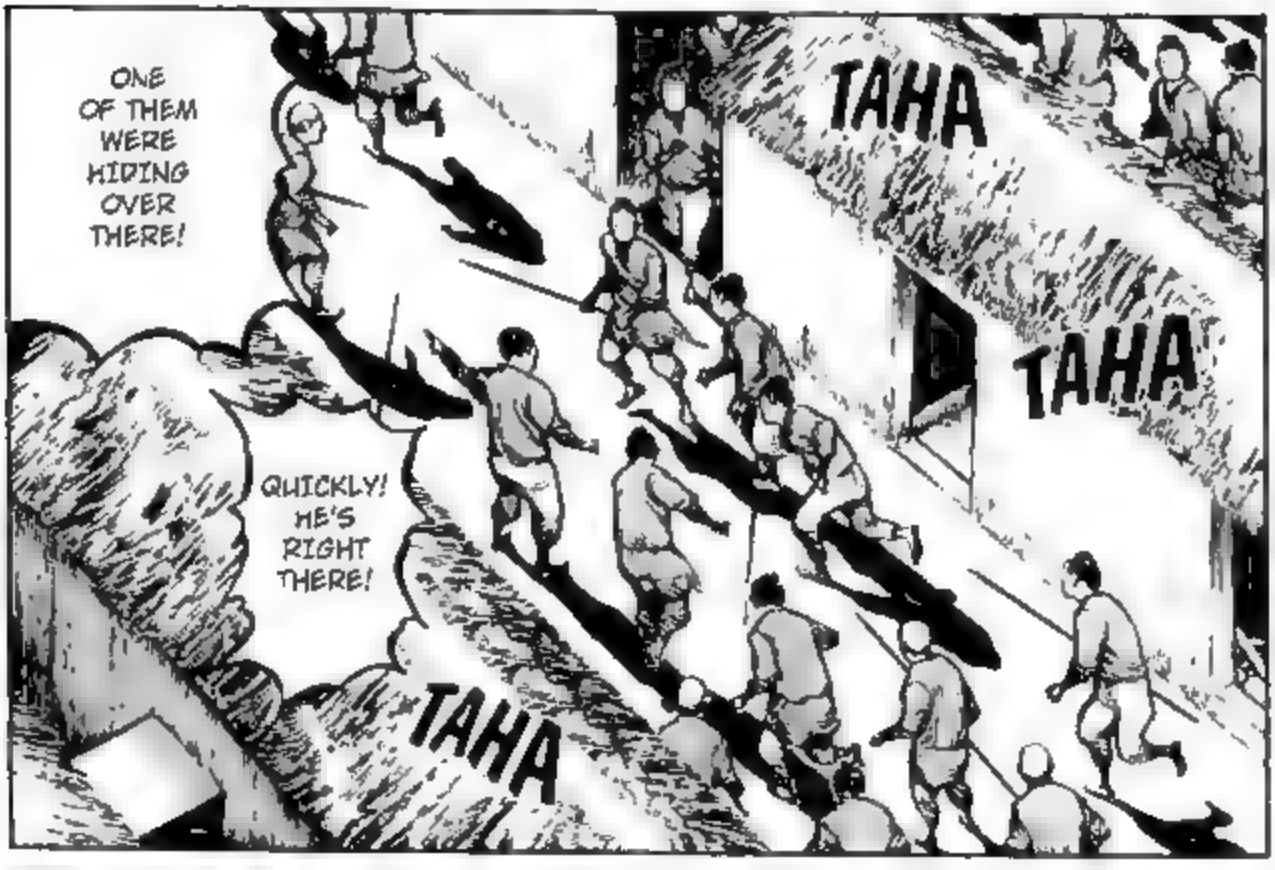


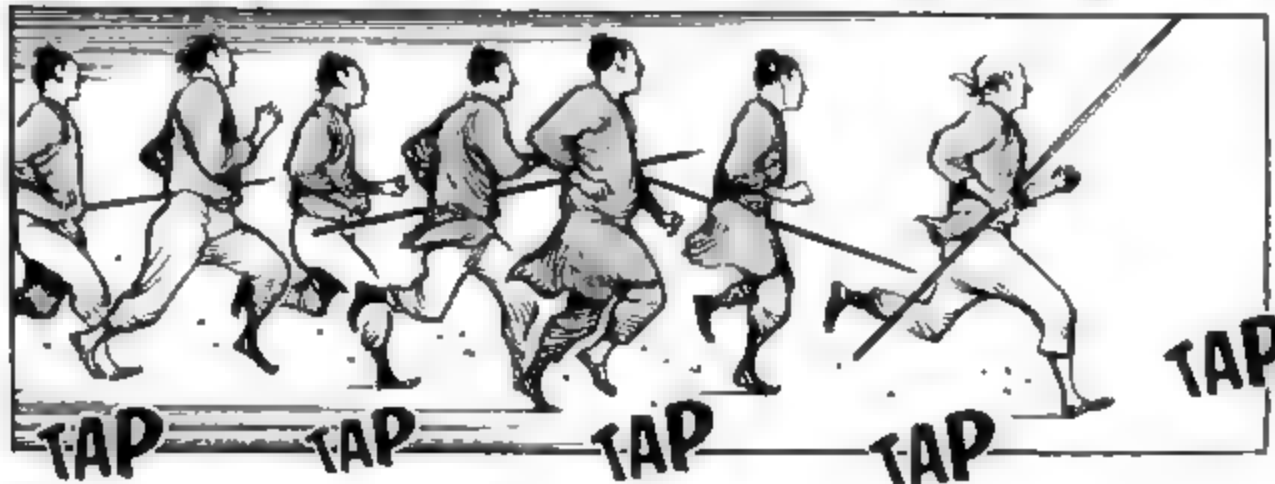
CHAPTER 04

MESSAGE OF DEATH

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

INTRUDER
THERE!


ONE OF THEM WERE HIDING OVER THERE!
QUICKLY! HE'S RIGHT THERE!
TAHA
TAHA
TAHA

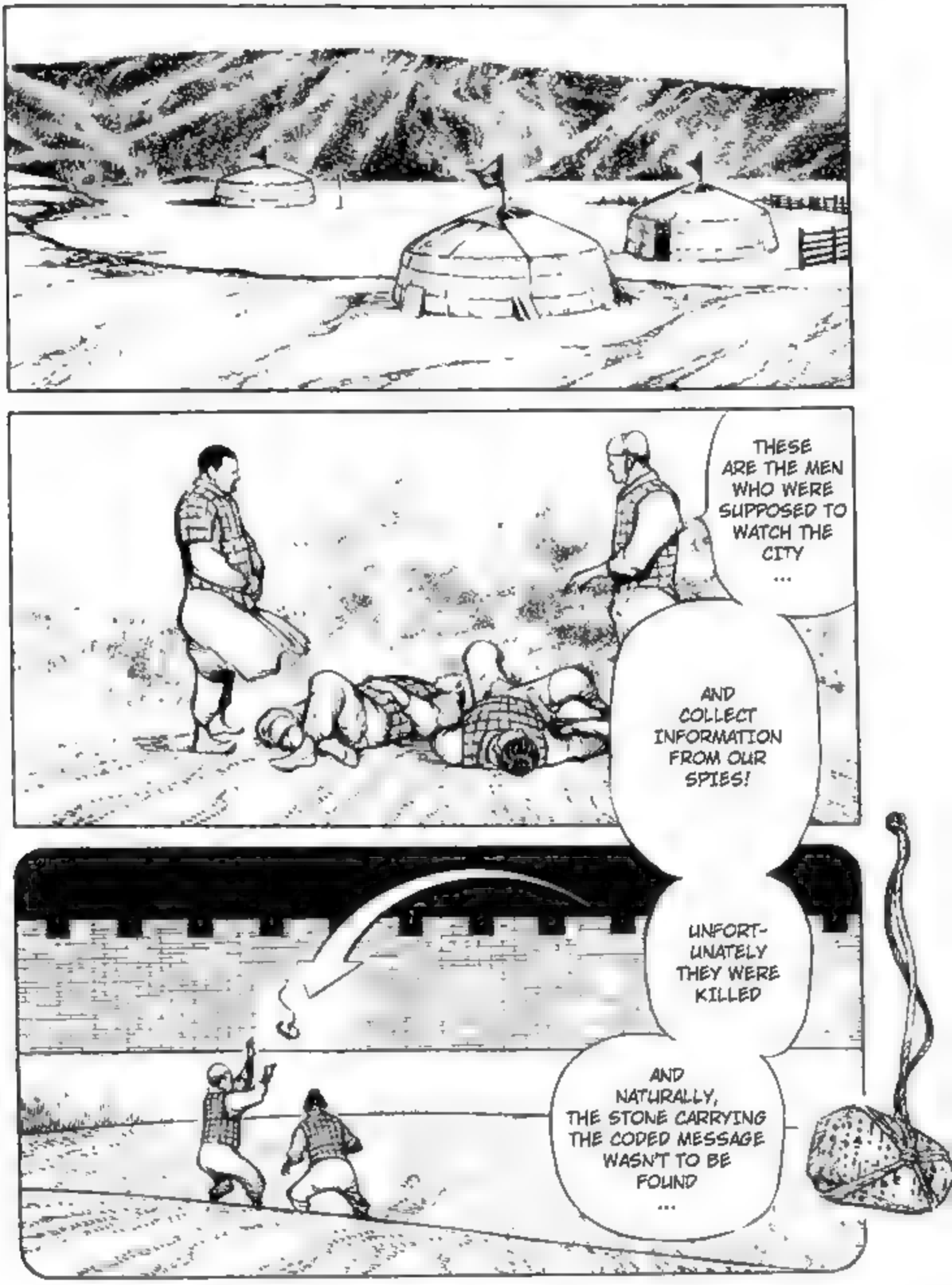

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

TIE HIM UP!

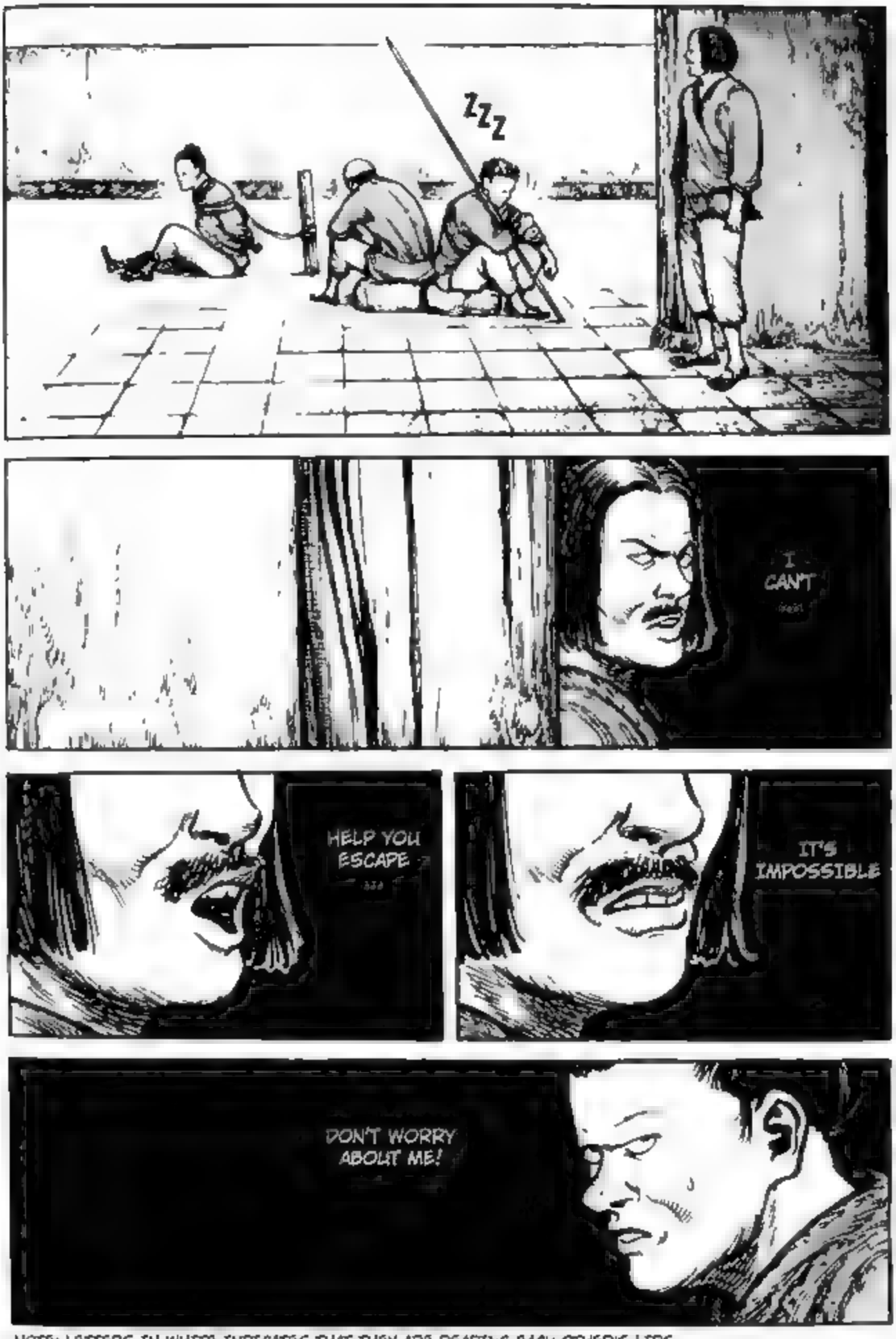
NO PROBLEM. HE BROKE HIS LEFT LEG WHILE RUNNING. HE WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE

TELL ME, HOW MANY OF YOUR FRIENDS ARE STILL HIDING?
AND WHEN WILL YOUR ARMY ATTACK?

HEH
W-WHAT THE ...
.....
SAIKYU, KILL THAT UGLY SON OF A BITCH!
NO, WAIT! WE'LL GET HIM TALKING SOONER OR LATER!
THE REMAINING INTRUDERS WILL TRY TO FIND A WAY TO LET KOENTCHU KNOW THAT KAKURI HAS LEFT US!
WE MUST CATCH THEM TODAY!
WE CAN'T LET THIS INFORMATION GET OUT!


THESE ARE THE MEN WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO WATCH THE CITY ...
AND COLLECT INFORMATION FROM OUR SPIES!
UNFORT-UNATELY THEY WERE KILLED
AND NATURALLY, THE STONE CARRYING THE CODED MESSAGE WASN'T TO BE FOUND ...

WHAT'S STRANGE, THOUGH, IS THAT THEIR CORPSES WERE FOUND FAR AWAY FROM THE CITY
AND THAT THERE WERE A LOT OF FOOTPRINTS AROUND THEM
!?
MY GUESS WOULD BE THAT A GROUP OF MEN FROM THE CITY CHASED THE TWO OF THEM!
I SEE, IT SEEMS LIKE THE INFORMATION THEY HAD GATHERED WAS VERY IMPORTANT ...

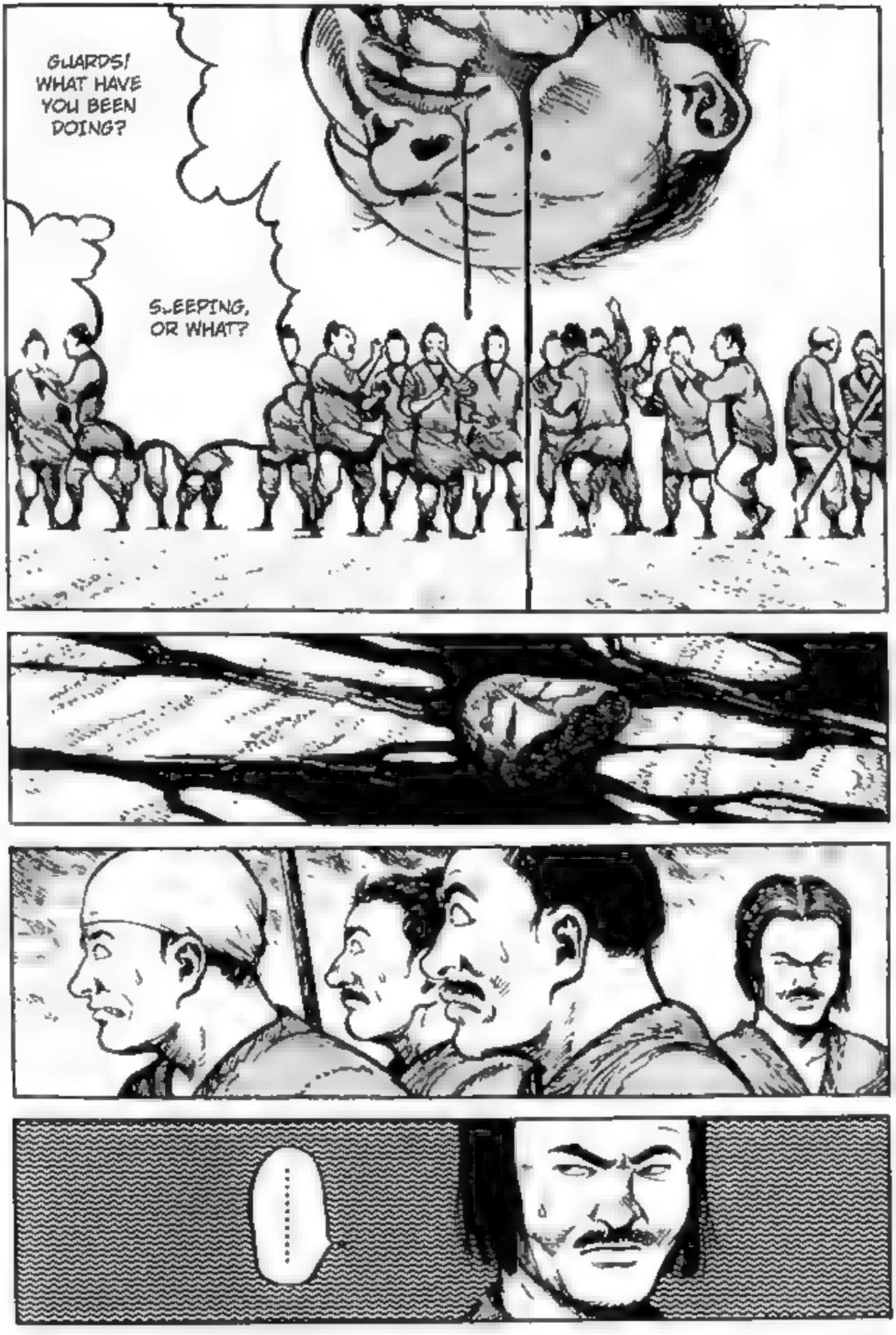


NOTE: LETTERS IN WHITE INDICATES THAT THEY ARE READING EACH OTHER'S LIPS

I WILL GET KOENTCHU THE MESSAGE AS PROMISED!
NO, YOUR TASK IS TO SPREAD PANIC IN THE CITY WHEN THE ATTACK STARTS! I'LL MAKE SURE KOENTCHU GET'S OUR INFORMATION!
?
KOENTCHU WILL SURELY SUSPECT THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT! PASS ME ONE OF YOUR DARTS. IT'S BETTER THAT I DO THIS!

SSSH
TOC
THANK YOU, NOW HIDE QUICKLY!
TCHK

S-SAIKYU!
THE PRISONER HAS COMMITTED SUICIDE BY BITING OFF HIS OWN TOUNGE!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
WHAT?!?


GUARDS! WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?
SLEEPING, OR WHAT?
.....

GOOD, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED ANYWAY ...
TWO OF YOU SHOULD GO BURY HIM! NOW!
NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO REST!
FIND THE REST OF THE INTRUDERS!
LOOK AT THAT!
HIS ARM IS ALL BLOODY
HE MUST HAVE TRIED TO ESCAPE OR SOMETHING
DZA
DZA
UGH!

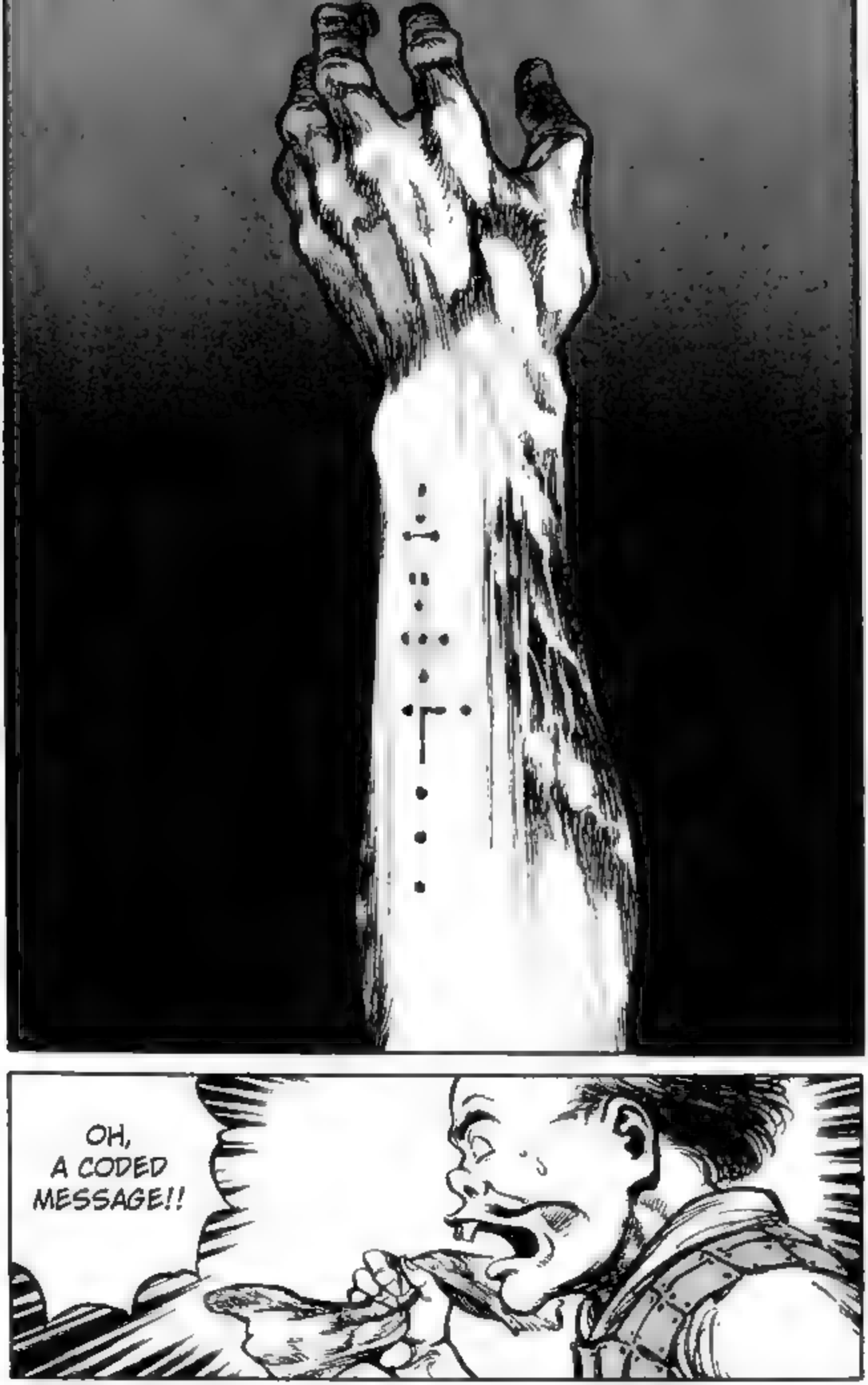
DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
TAH

I SEE ...
THEY MUST HAVE KILLED AT LEAST ONE OF OUR SPIES
GENERAL, I BEG YOU
MAKE SURE THAT OUR DEATHS WON'T BE IN VAIN!

HE SHOULD BE HERE! THE GROUND AROUND HERE IS NOT AS HARD
BUT WHY DOES HE WANT US TO DIG HIM UP?
DZA
DZA
WHY DON'T YOU JUST LET THE GENERAL DO THE THINKING!
BLOURG!

WE CHECKED ALL HIS CLOTHES, HIS MOUTH AND ALL THE OTHER OPENINGS OF HIS BODY, BUT WE FOUND NOTHING
I THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS ...
WELL THEN, BURY HIM AMONG THE OTHERS
ARE YOU WONDERING ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CITY?
HMM ...

DZA
DZA
DZA
DZA
WAIT!!
GENERAL
...


OH,
A CODED
MESSAGE!!

"KAKURI HAS LEFT"
..
THE ONLY EXTERNAL INJURY IS HIS BROKEN LEG. HE WAS NOT KILLED BY THE ENEMY!
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT, IN ORDER TO GIVE US THIS MESSAGE, "KAKURI HAS LEFT", HE BIT HIS OWN TOUNGE OFF
HE DIED IN BRAVERY!

AT DAWN,
WE WILL ATTACK THE CITY OF RYO!

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CHAPTER 05

THE RUSH

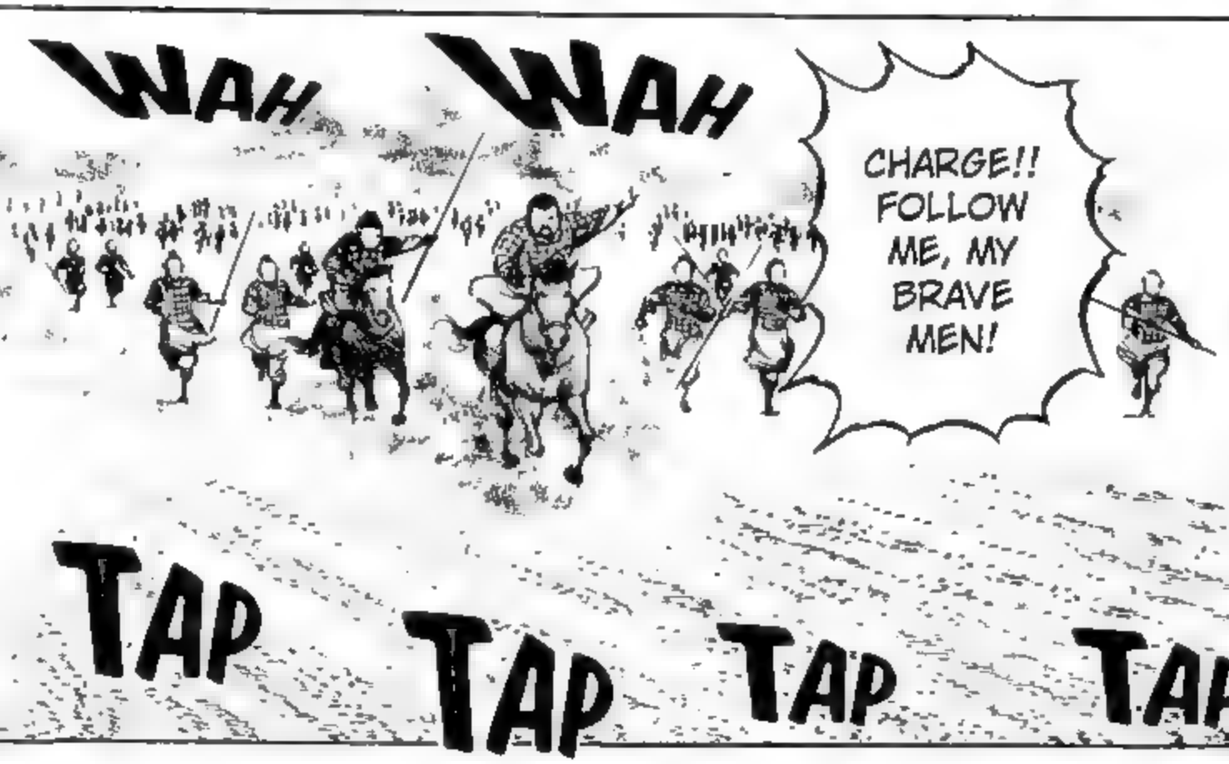
EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON

PROOFREADER: ZYPH

SSHYUUUH

THIS WILL BE THE ATTACK THAT DECIDES IT ALL!

WAH
WAH
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP


WAH
WAH
CHARGE!! FOLLOW ME, MY BRAVE MEN!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

WAH

WAH

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TCHO'S WHOLE ARMY IS ATTACKING!!

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

THE ENEMY IS COMING!

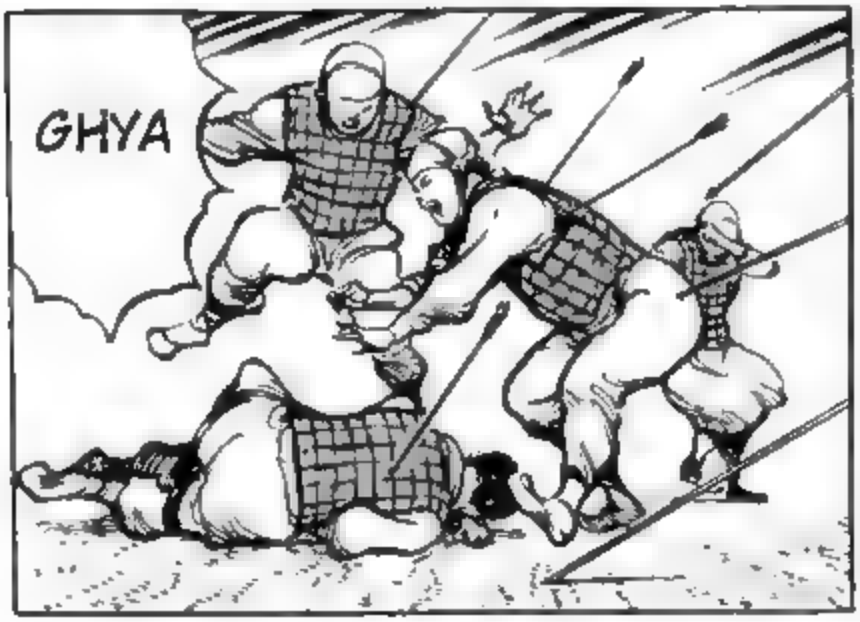
WAA AAA ARH !!!

DADZA
KAKURI IS NO LONGER THERE, THE CITY IS AS GOOD AS OURS!

ARCHERS, DRAW!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

KILL THEM ALL! KILL!

HYOUU
HYOUU


GHYA

DON'T REGARD THEM AS HUMANS
DAMN YOU!
GHY AAA

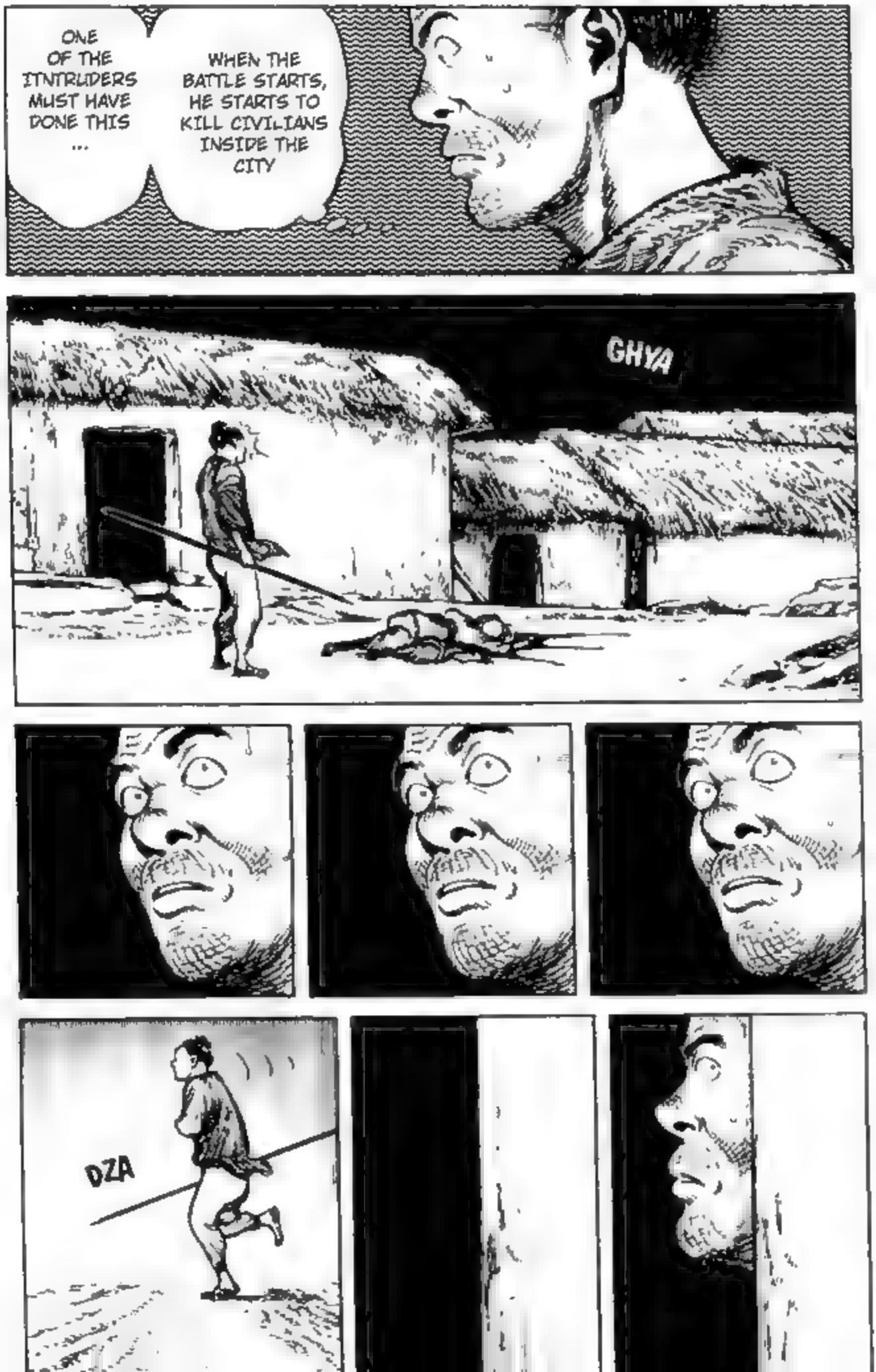
SAIKYU, HANG IN THERE!
HELP HIM!

IT IS NOTHING, JUST A SMALL WOUND, I'LL STAY AND FIGHT!

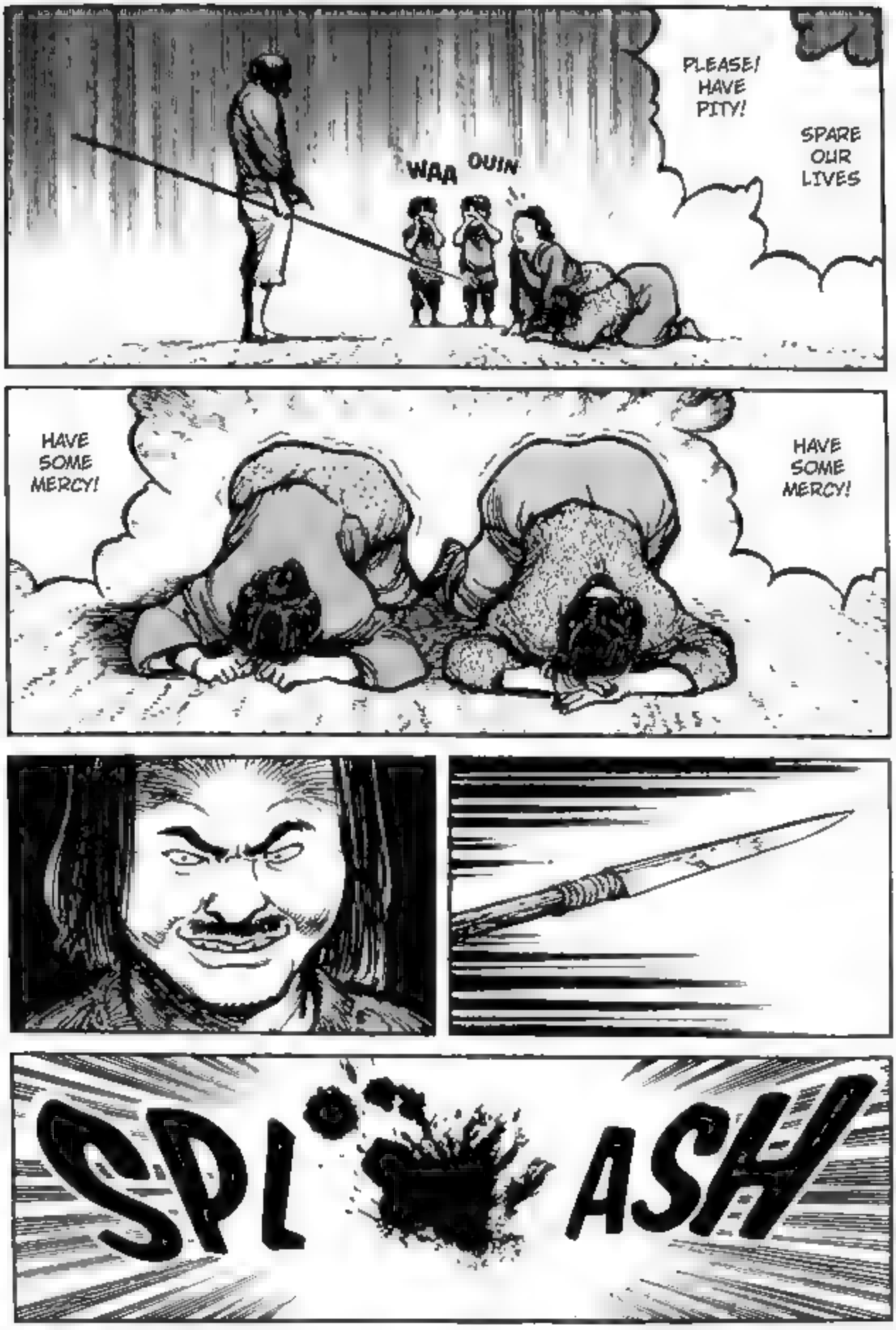
DON'T! SINCE KAKURI IS NOT HERE ANYMORE, EVERYONE'S DEPENDING ON YOU

I'LL TAKE SAIKYU'S PLACE
WHILE HE'S RESTING
I, RYOTEKI, SON OF KING RYOKEI ...
WILL NOT LET ANYONE INTO THIS CITY!!
THIS TIME, WILL WE BE ABLE TO DEFEND OURSELVES?
THEY ARE ALL COUNTING ON ME,
BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE ...

HUH?


ONE OF THE ITNTRUDERS MUST HAVE DONE THIS ...
WHEN THE BATTLE STARTS, HE STARTS TO KILL CIVILIANS INSIDE THE CITY
GHYA
DZA

PLAFF


PLEASE! HAVE PITY!
SPARE OUR LIVES
WAA
OUIN
HAVE SOME MERCY!
HAVE SOME MERCY!
SPL
ASH

Plop
BWUA AAAAA AAAAA !!!
DAHAH
OUO UWA AH!!
HYAA AARH !!!
!!

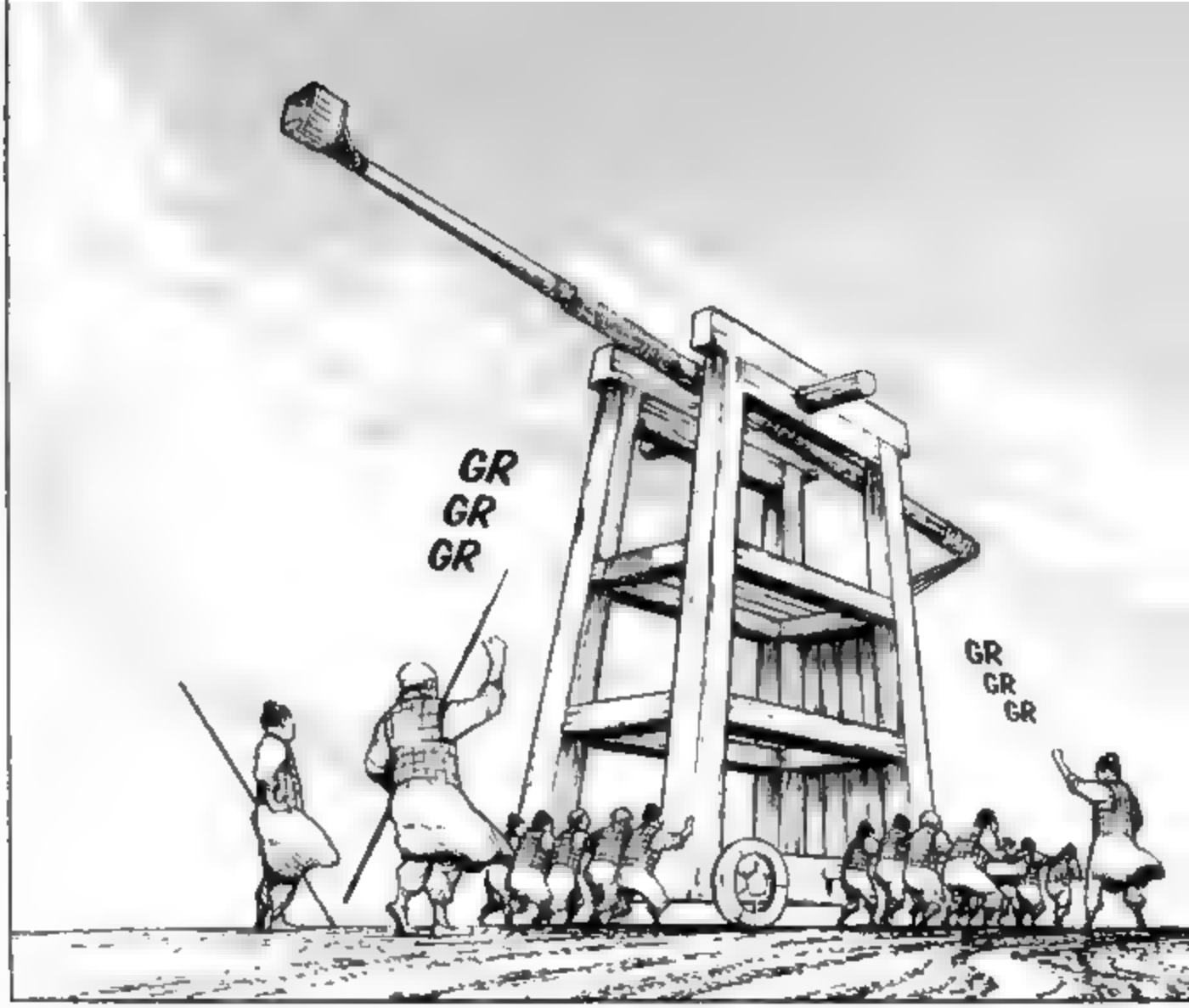
YOU LITTLE GOBLIN !!!
SPLASH

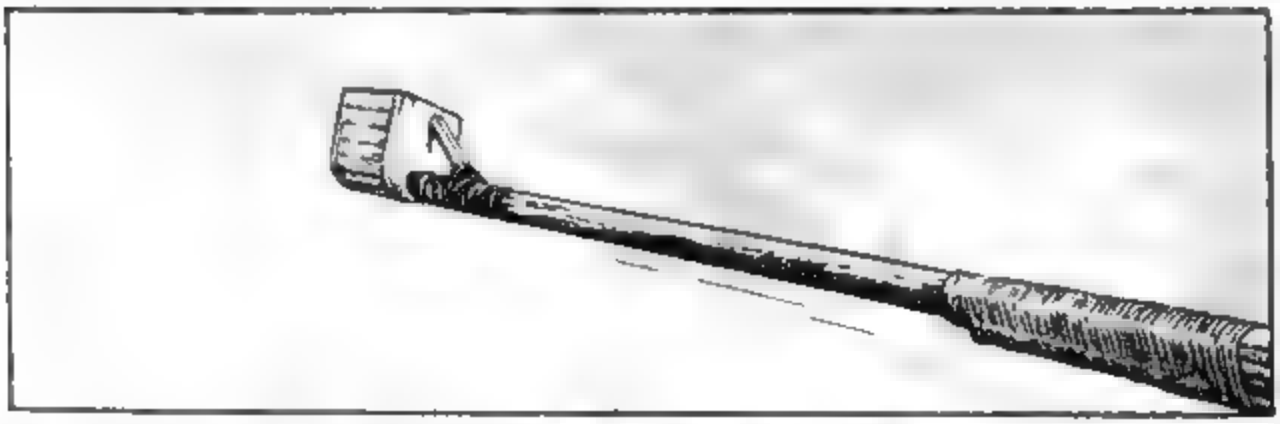
AHA
HI HI
WITHOUT KAKURI, YOU WON'T STAND A CHANCE!
YOU'LL ALL DIE!

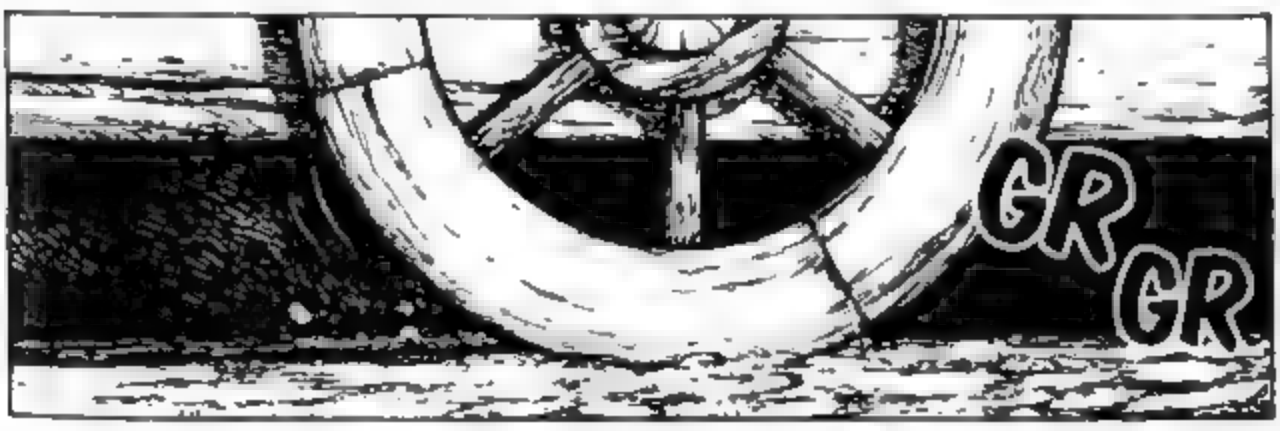
PLOF
OUIN
WAAH
WAAH
WILL WE LOSE THIS WAR?
WILL WE ALL BE DEFEATED?
THIS IS OUR CITY!!

WA
WA
WA
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

WA
WA
WA
WA
WA
THOSE SILLY LITTLE ASSHOLES ARE AT IT AGAIN!
!?
GR GR GR


GR
GR
GR
GR
GR
GR




GR
GR

THAT CATAPULT ... ARE THEY PLANNING TO THROW STONES AT THEM?
NO ...
I DON'T THINK THEY'VE REALIZED HOW DANGEROUS THIS BATTLE HAS BECOME!
GR GR GR

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CHAPTER 06
THE SECRET WEAPON

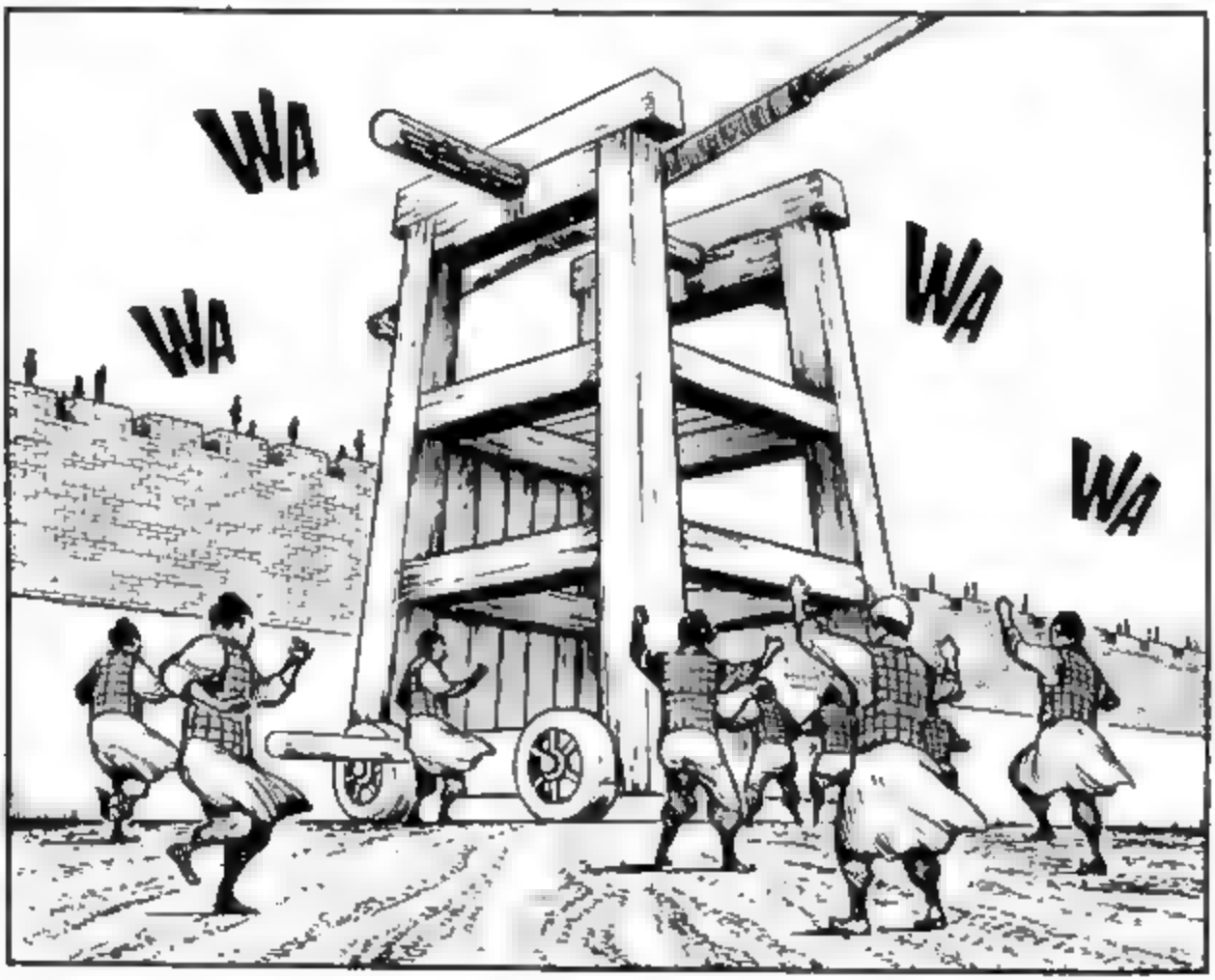
EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

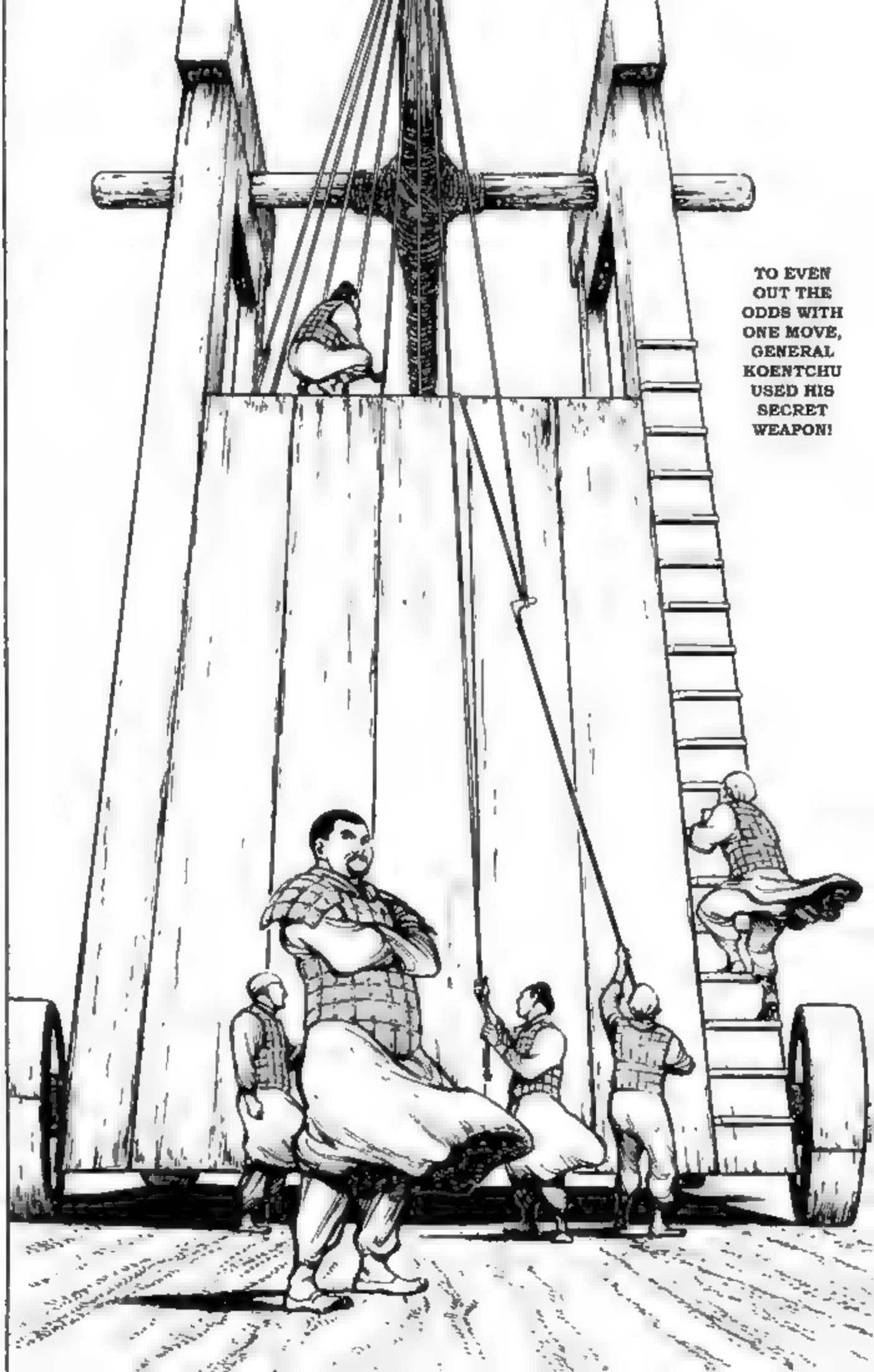
WA
WA
WA
GHIHIHI
SSHHYUH
SSHHYUH

TAC
TOC
TOC
YOU NEED TO AIM BETTER!
THEY ARE MOVING IN ALL DIRECTIONS,
ONLY TO MAKE US WASTE OUR ARROWS!!
WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF ARROWS!!
HUH!
WHAT IS THAT?

GR
GR
GR

GENERAL!
HERE IT IS!


WA
WA
WA
WA


TO EVEN OUT THE ODDS WITH ONE MOVE, GENERAL KOENTCHU USED HIS SECRET WEAPON!

WHAT IS THAT THING?
WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO THROW AT US THIS TIME?
IT'S A CATAPULT
OOO

TOC
WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WHO'RE BEING STARTLED ...
TCHO'S SOLDIERS ARE STARING AT IT, THEY EVEN FORGOT TO FIGHT!
CHII!

GHIII

THEY MADE A MAN GET INTO IT!

WH
...
WHAT?

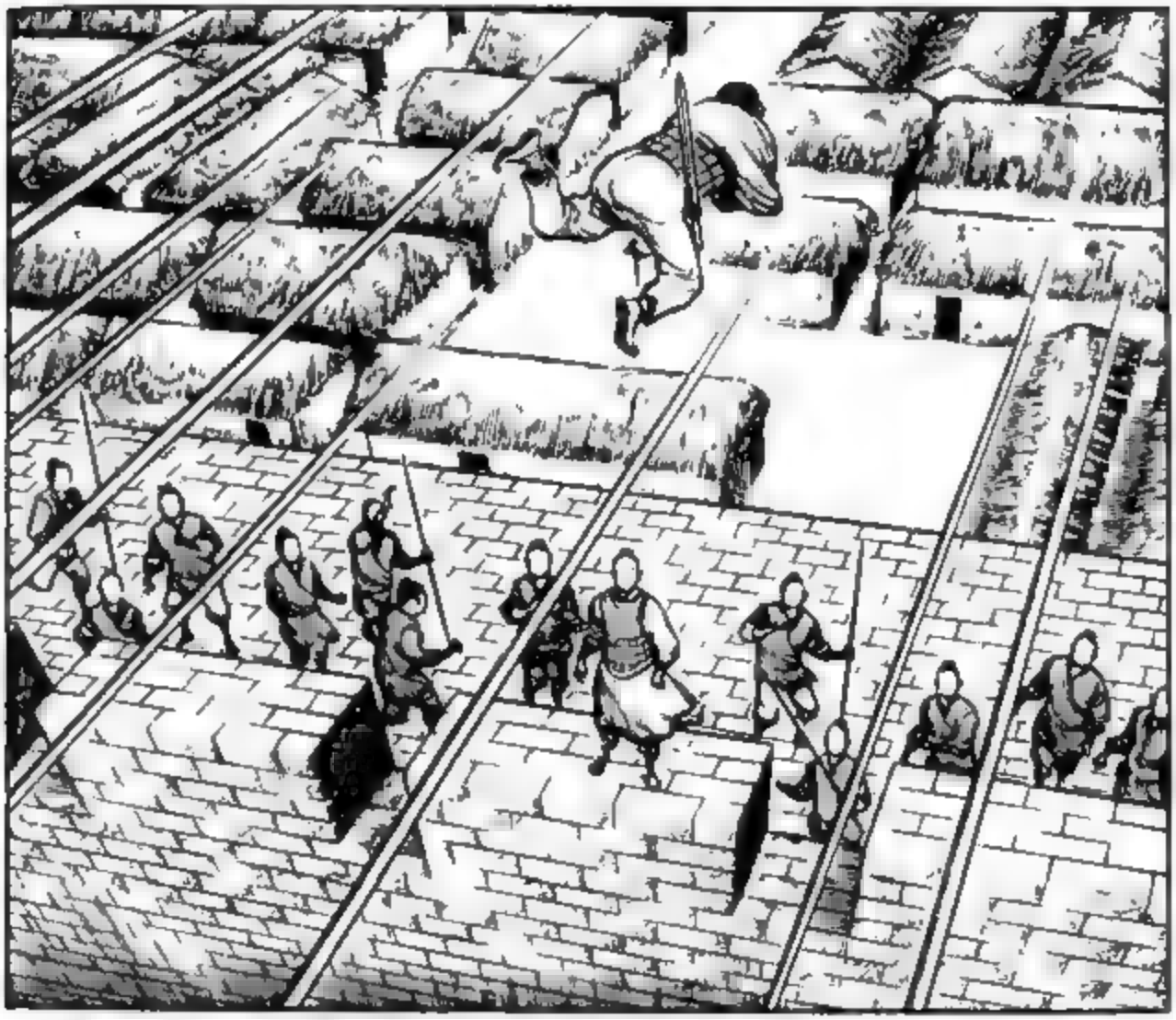
HYOU
HYOU
OU
LAUNCH THE CATA-PULT!!
FLY INTO THEIR CITY, LIKE A BEAUTIFUL BIRD!

PAH
PLOM
HOOOO
AWA

HYA
AAA
AAA
AAA
AAA
AAA
!!!

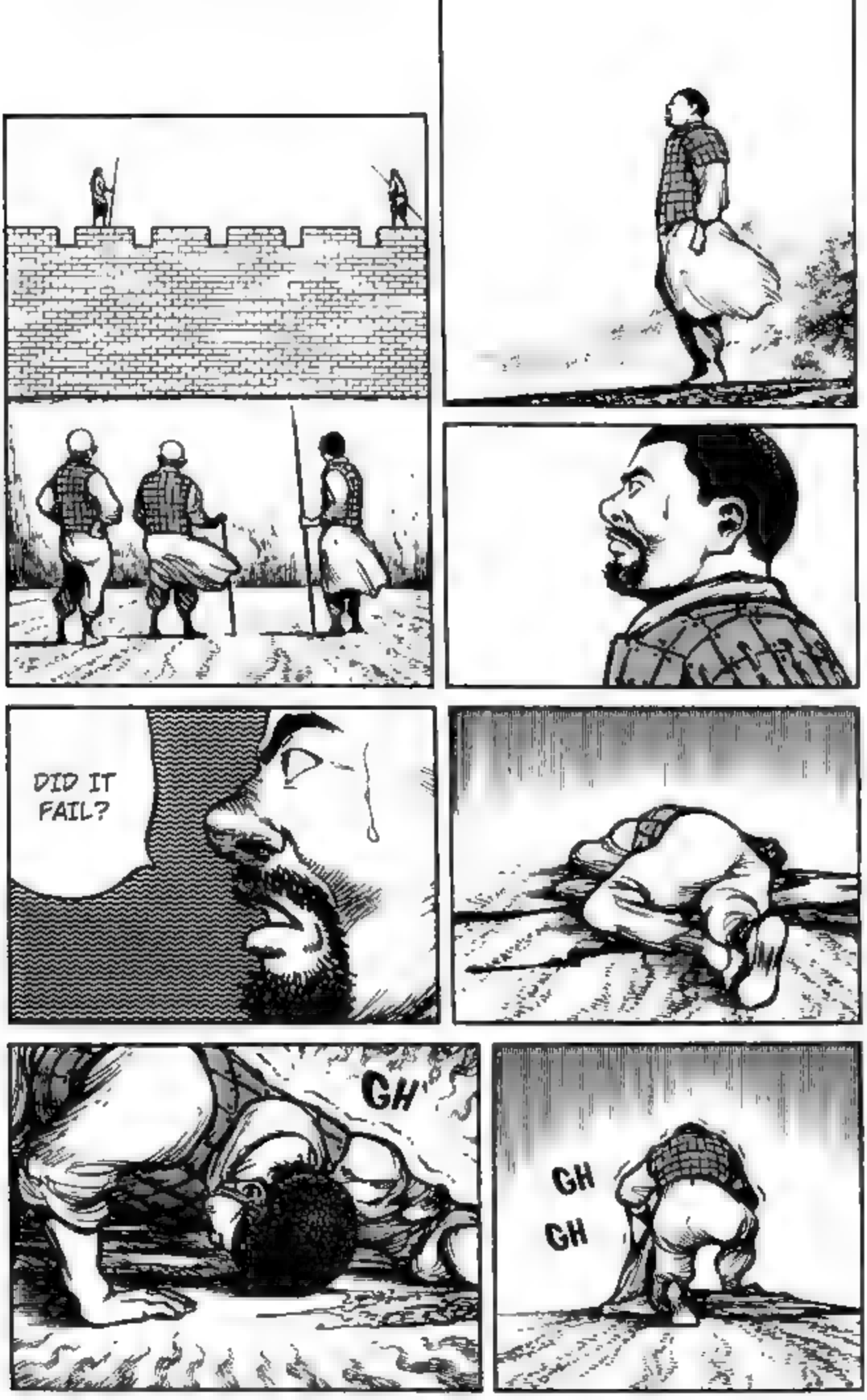
CLONG

WA
WA
PUT SOME WEIGHT ON IT, IT MIGHT FALL!
WA
WA
WA
THAT'S NOT A STONE, IT'S A MAN!



CLAC
WOOH
PSHUT
WOOH
OOO OOH !!!
HE WILL BE SPLATTERED AGAINST THE GROUND!

CLAC
HUFF!
BEURK
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
GO SEE!


DID IT FAIL?
GH
GH
GH

PIIIITT
HE MADE IT!

I FLEW LIKE A BIRD! AND LANDED SAFELY ON THEIR GROUND!
VICTORY!! ... WE ARE ONLY TWO THOUSAND ...
BUT WE'RE TWO THOUSAND MEN OF UNPARALLELLED STRENGTH AND BRAVERY ...
AND WE WILL WIN !!!

TOC
PLOF
GREAT
LAUNCH THE OTHERS!

SAIKYU, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
TELL FIFTY MEN TO GO AFTER THEM!
AS SOON AS YOU FIND ONE OF THEM, KILL HIM!!
CLONG
HERE COMES ANOTHER ONE!!

CLAC
WOOOH
SCHLASH

THERE HE IS!
TAP
TAP
TAP
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

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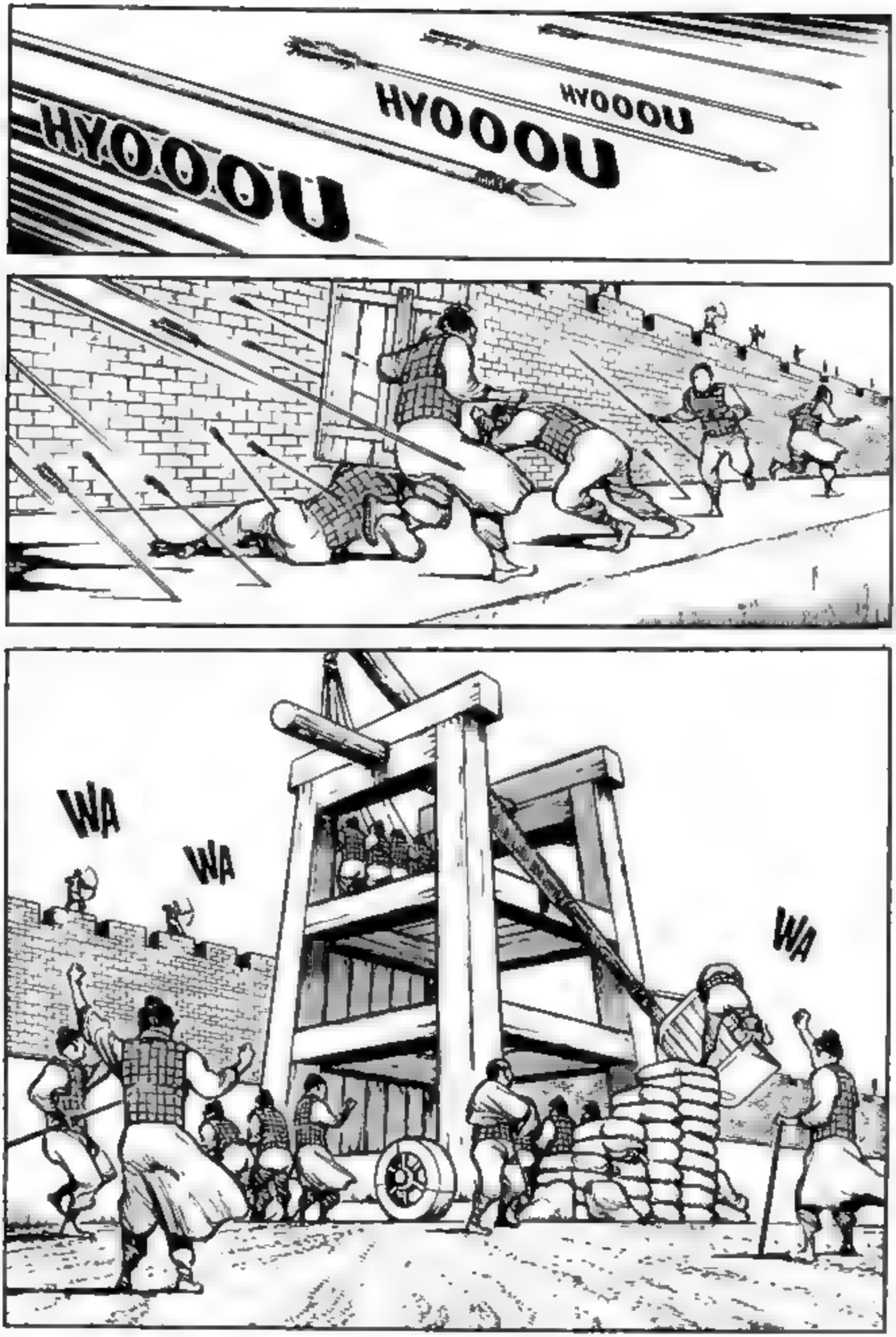
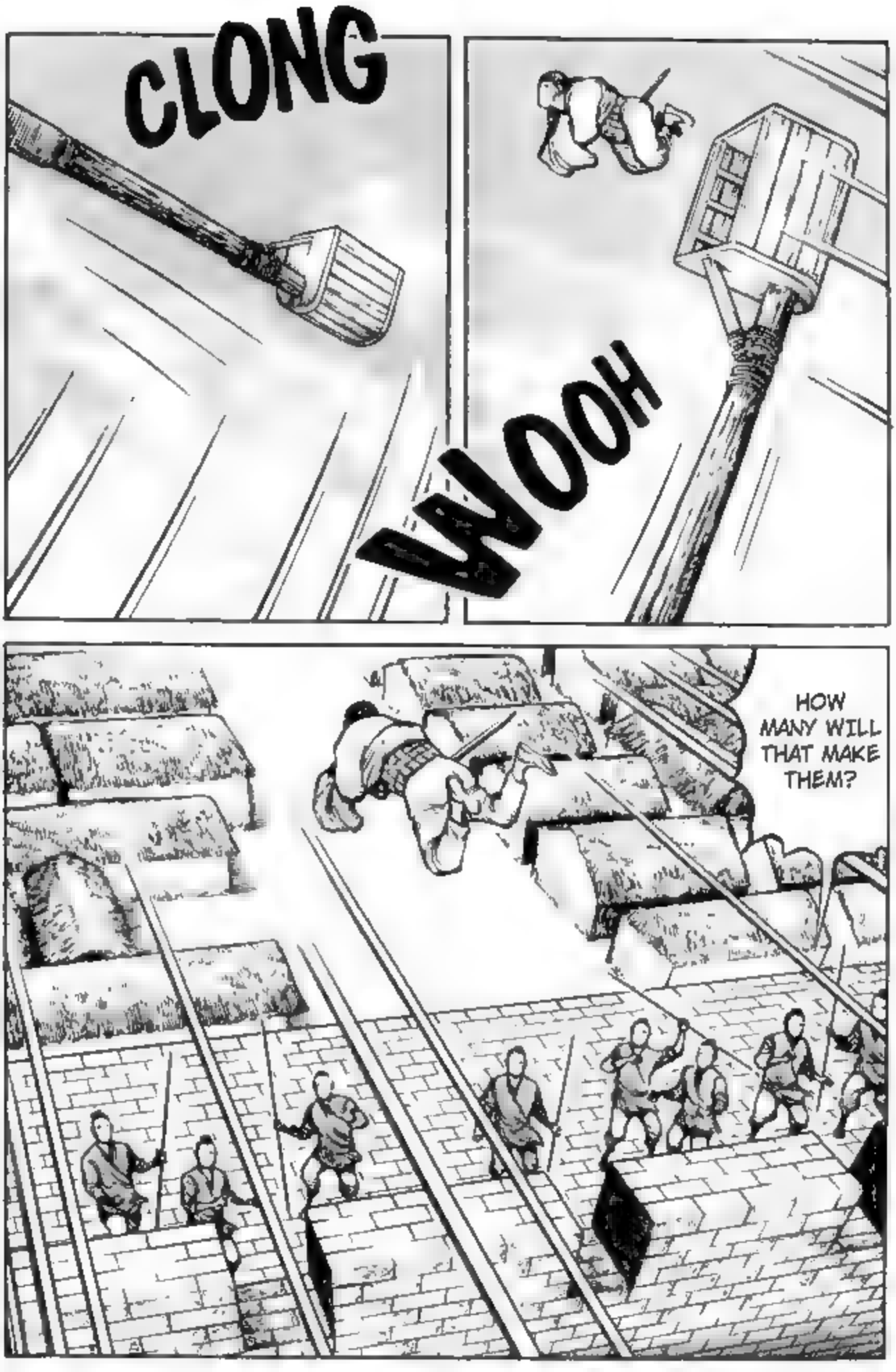
CHAPTER 07

CAPTURING THE SOUTHERN GATE

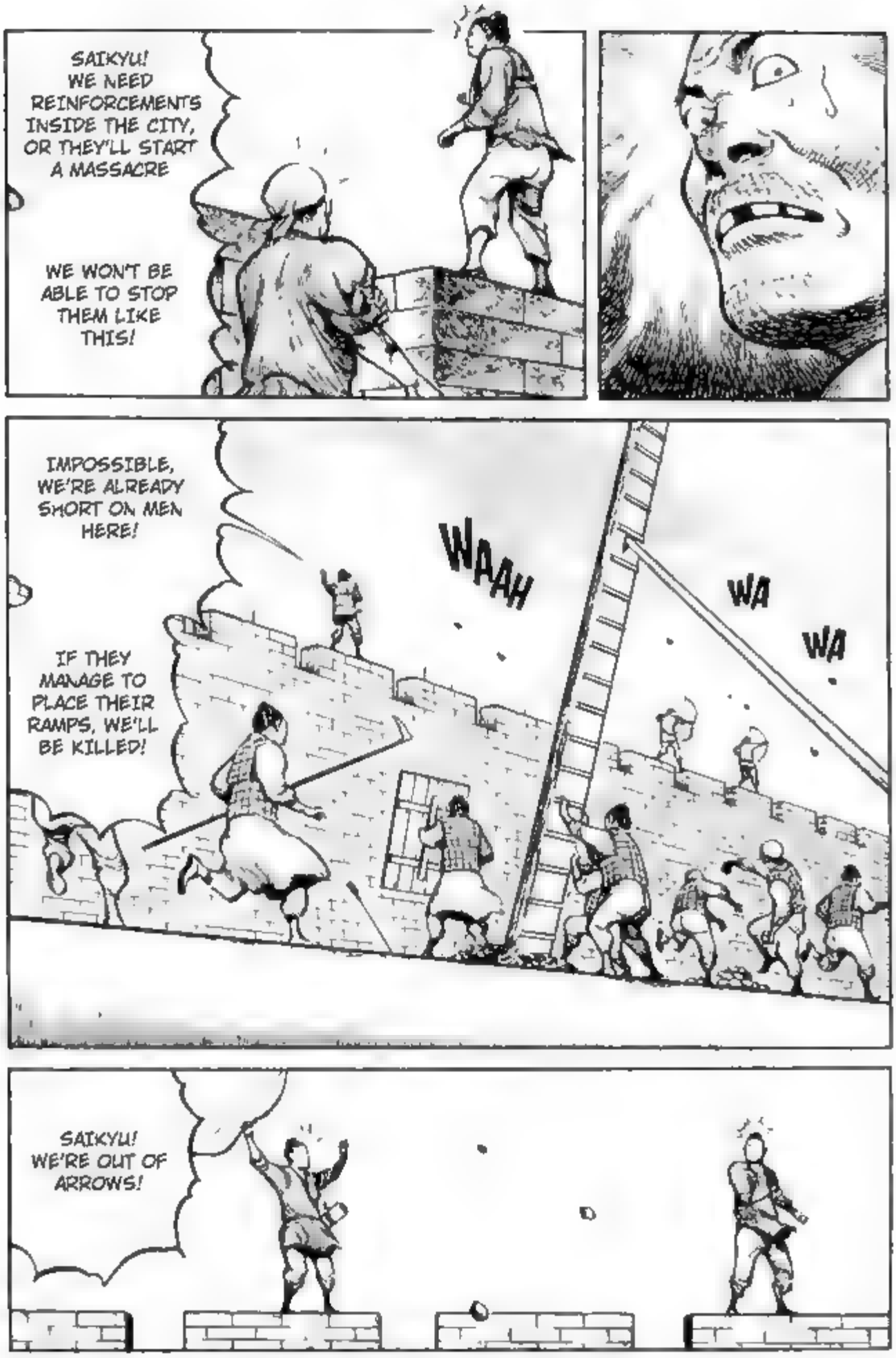
EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH


HYOOOU
HYOOOU
HYOOOU
WA
WA
WA


CLONG
WOOH
HOW MANY WILL THAT MAKE THEM?

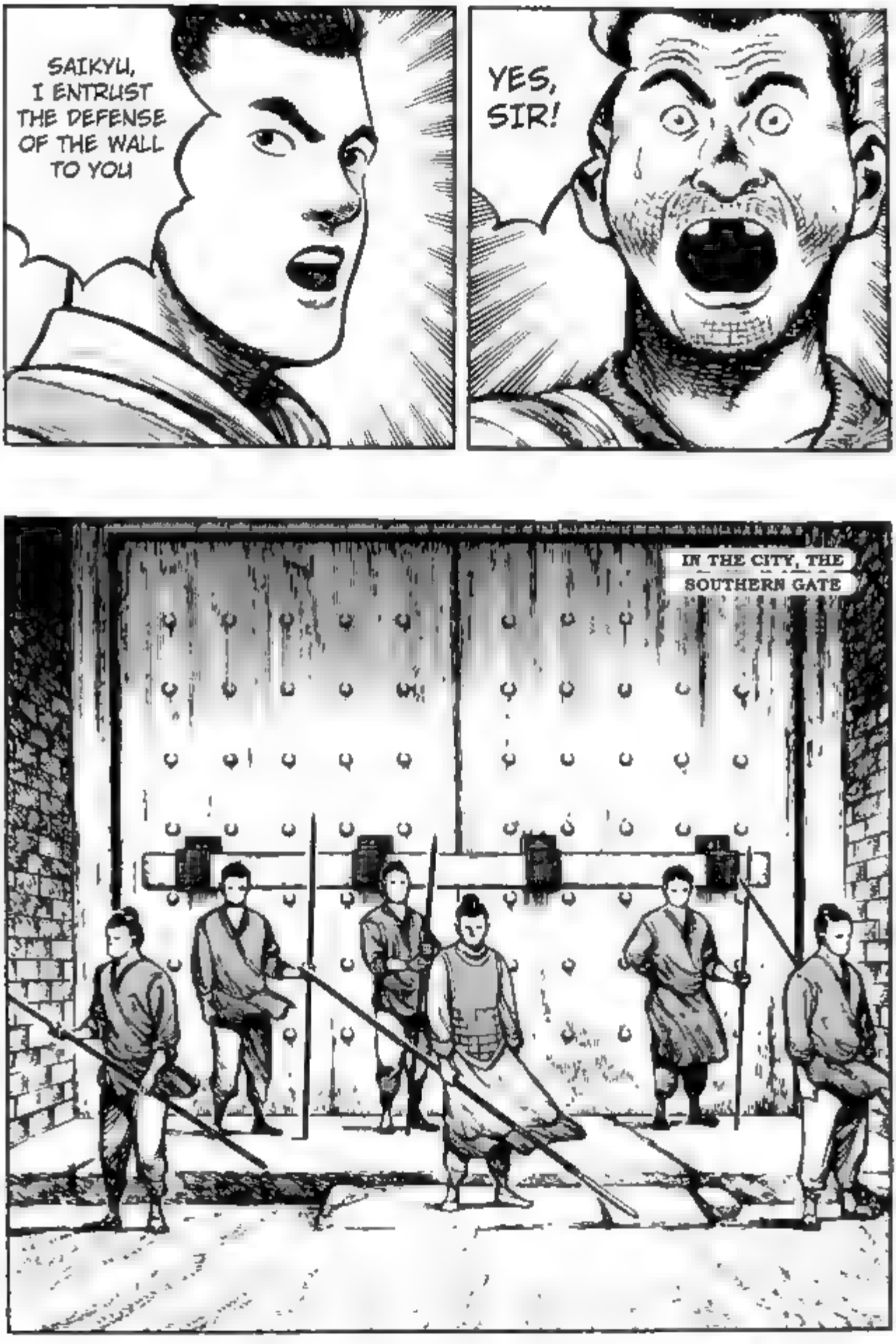
I'VE SEEN AT LEAST FIFTY!
THIS IS BAD WITH THEIR MACHINE, THEY ARE ABLE TO SEND THEM RIGHT ACROSS THE WALL!
SHUT UP! IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN THIS TO DEFEAT US!
CLAC
OH! OVER THERE ...
WA
TAP
TAP
SHIT! SOLDIERS OF TCHO

WAAA
AAAA
AAAA
AARH
EH?
TOC
GHYA
AAAA
RAA
AAA
AAR
RH


SAIKYU! WE NEED REINFORCEMENTS INSIDE THE CITY, OR THEY'LL START A MASSACRE
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP THEM LIKE THIS!
IMPOSSIBLE, WE'RE ALREADY SHORT ON MEN HERE!
IF THEY MANAGE TO PLACE THEIR RAMPS, WE'LL BE KILLED!
WAAH
WA
WA
SAIKYU! WE'RE OUT OF ARROWS!

SAIKYU,
WE DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO DO!!
.....
SAIKYU
SAIKYU!
IF THEY
SEND IN
SOLDIERS,
THEY MUST
BE TRYING
TO OPEN
THE GATES!
HOW
MANY
SOLDIERS
ARE
GUARDING
THE DOORS?
THERE'RE
FIFTY MEN
GUARDING
EACH DOOR!
THE
ENEMY
HAS
ALREADY
SENT IN
OVER
FIFTY
MEN,
BUT
THE FALL
MUST'VE
KILLED OR
INJURED
MANY OF
THEM
THEY
WILL
HAVE A
HARD
TIME
CAPTURING
ONE OF
THE
GATES!

WELL YES, BUT THEY JUST KEEP TOSSING THEM IN, ONE AFTER THE OTHER!
HOW THE HELL WILL WE BE ABLE TO STOP FIFTY OF THEM?
.....
REDUCE THE GUARDS BY THE SOUTHERN GATE TO TWENTY MEN
WHAT...?
WE WILL MAKE THEM TRY TO CAPTURE THIS GATE AND THEN WE WILL KILL THEM!!
I WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE OPERATION!


SAIKYU, I ENTRUST THE DEFENSE OF THE WALL TO YOU
YES, SIR!
IN THE CITY, THE SOUTHERN GATE

TO ENTER THE CITY THIS WAY, THEY COULD ONLY CARRY DAGGERS,
THEY DON'T HAVE ANY MID RANGE WEAPONS
WE WILL BE ARMED WITH SPEARS!! THEY WON'T STAND A CHANCE!! AND DON'T FORGET,
IF THEY MANAGE TO OPEN ONE OF THE GATES, THEN IT WILL BE THE END OF THIS CITY!!
WE ONLY HAVE THREE ARROWS PER MAN
IF THEY LAUNCH AN ATTACK, AIM WELL, DON'T WASTE A SINGLE ARROW!

PRINCE RYOTEKI DIDN'T HESITATE ONE SECOND TO TAKE THE ROLE AS LEADER
WE MUST PROTECT HIM AT ALL COSTS!

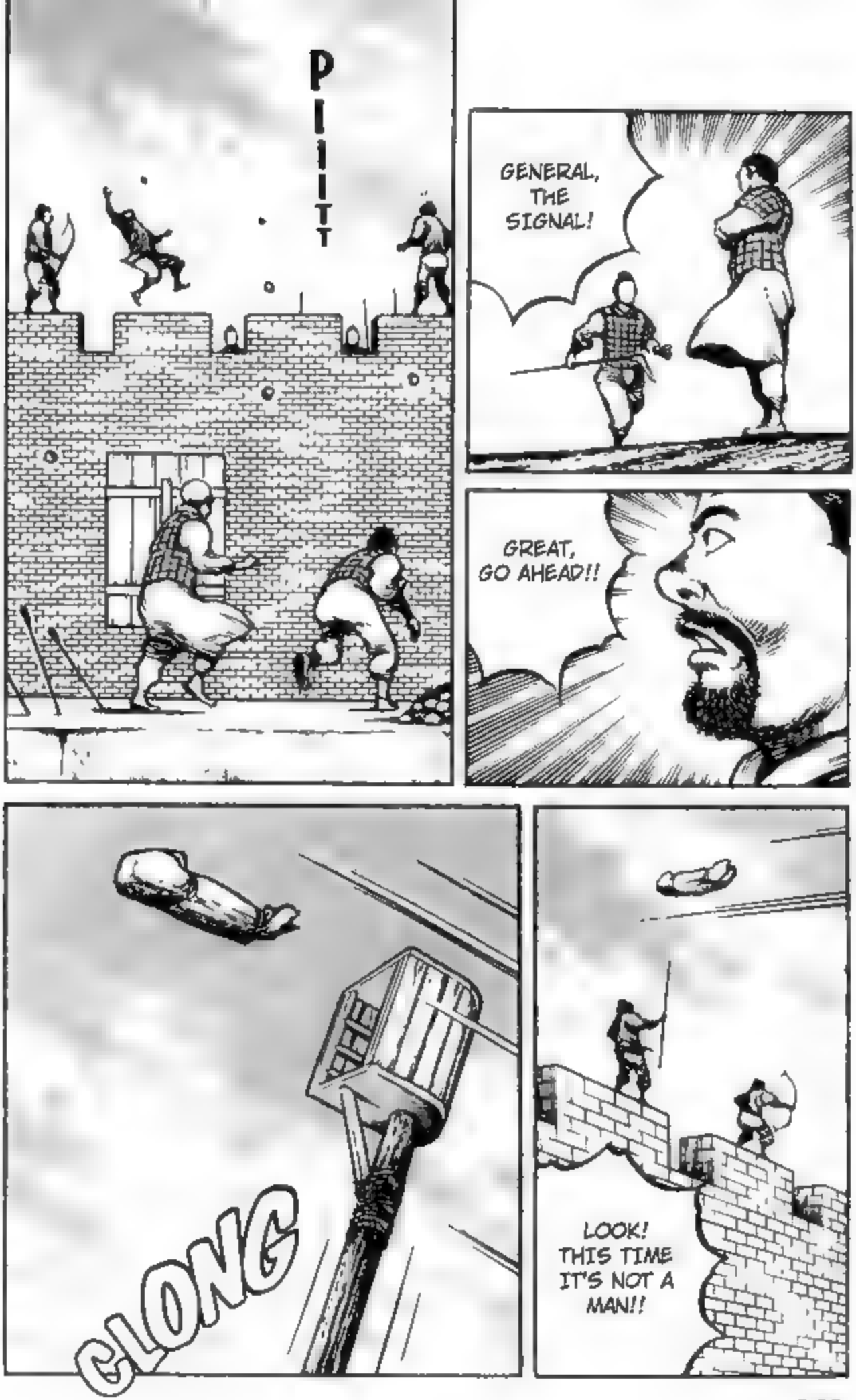
THERE ARE FIFTY GUARDS BY EACH DOOR!

ONLY THIRY-FIVE OF US MADE IT IN GOOD SHAPE ...
WE CAN'T POSSIBLY BEAT THEM!!

TAP TAP TAP

THE GUARDS OF THE SOUTHERN GATE ARE BUT TWENTY MEN!!
TAP TAP TAP

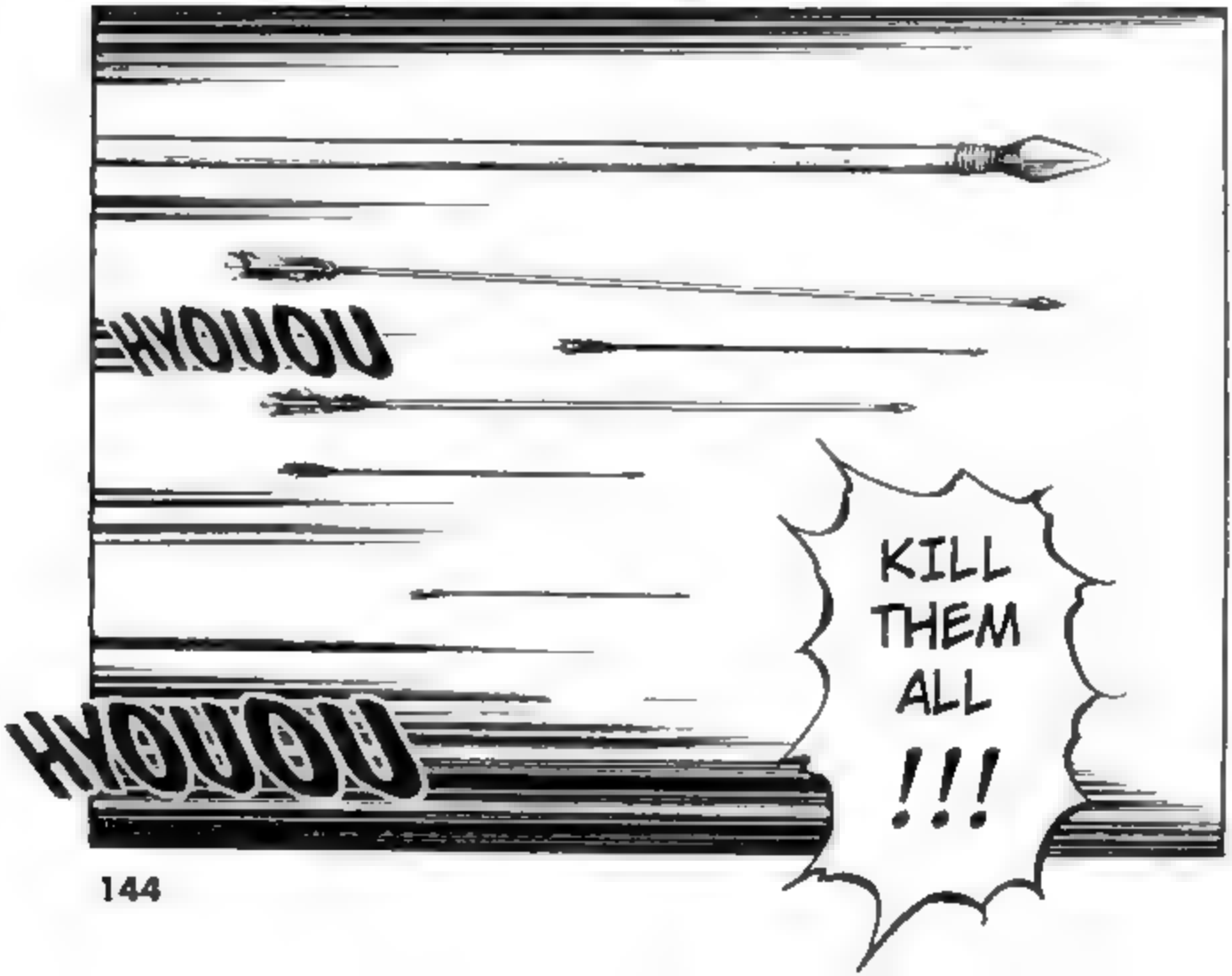
WHAT?
IT'S PRINCE RYOTEKI IN PERSON WHO'S IN CHARGE OF THEM
AGAINST TWENTY, WE'LL BE STRONGER!
BUT IT MIGHT BE A TRAP ...
WHAT SHALL WE DO ??
.....
WELL, IF THEY PREPARED A TRAP FOR US, WE'LL TRY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!


PIIIT
GENERAL, THE SIGNAL!
GREAT, GO AHEAD!!
CLONG
LOOK! THIS TIME IT'S NOT A MAN!!

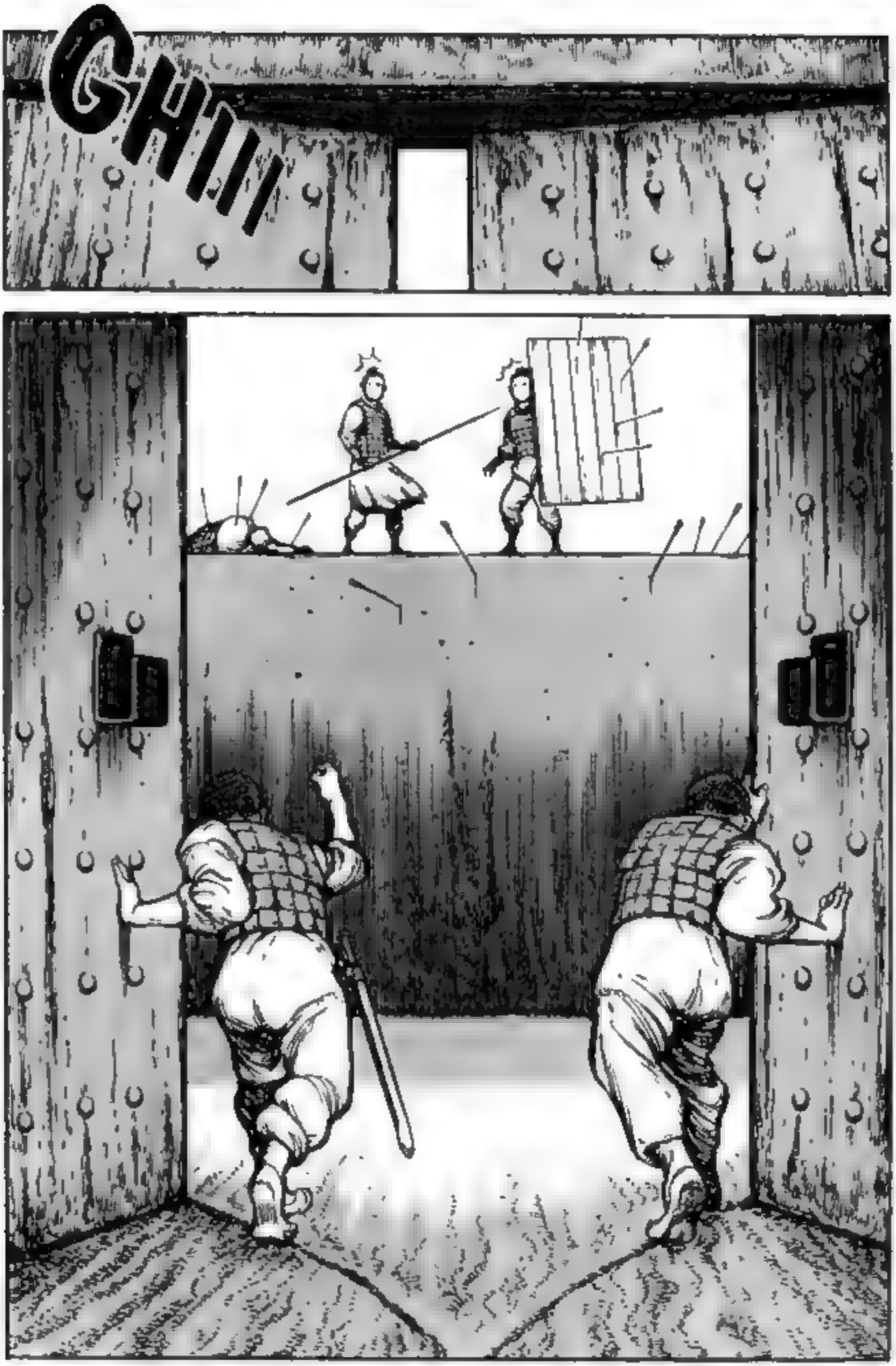
CLANG
THE PARCEL HAS ARRIVED!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
BUT IN WHAT SHAPE?
INCREDIBLE! NOTHING HAS BEEN BROKEN!!

WITH THIS WE'LL BE ABLE TO OPEN THE GATE!!
TA TA TA
TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP
THE ENEMY! HERE THEY COME!
!!
OH

SHIT! WHERE THE HELL DID THEY GET BOWS AND ARROWS?


HYOUOU
HYOUOU
KILL THEM ALL !!!

GHYAA AAAAA !!!
PRINCE RYOTEKI
OPEN THE GATE!!

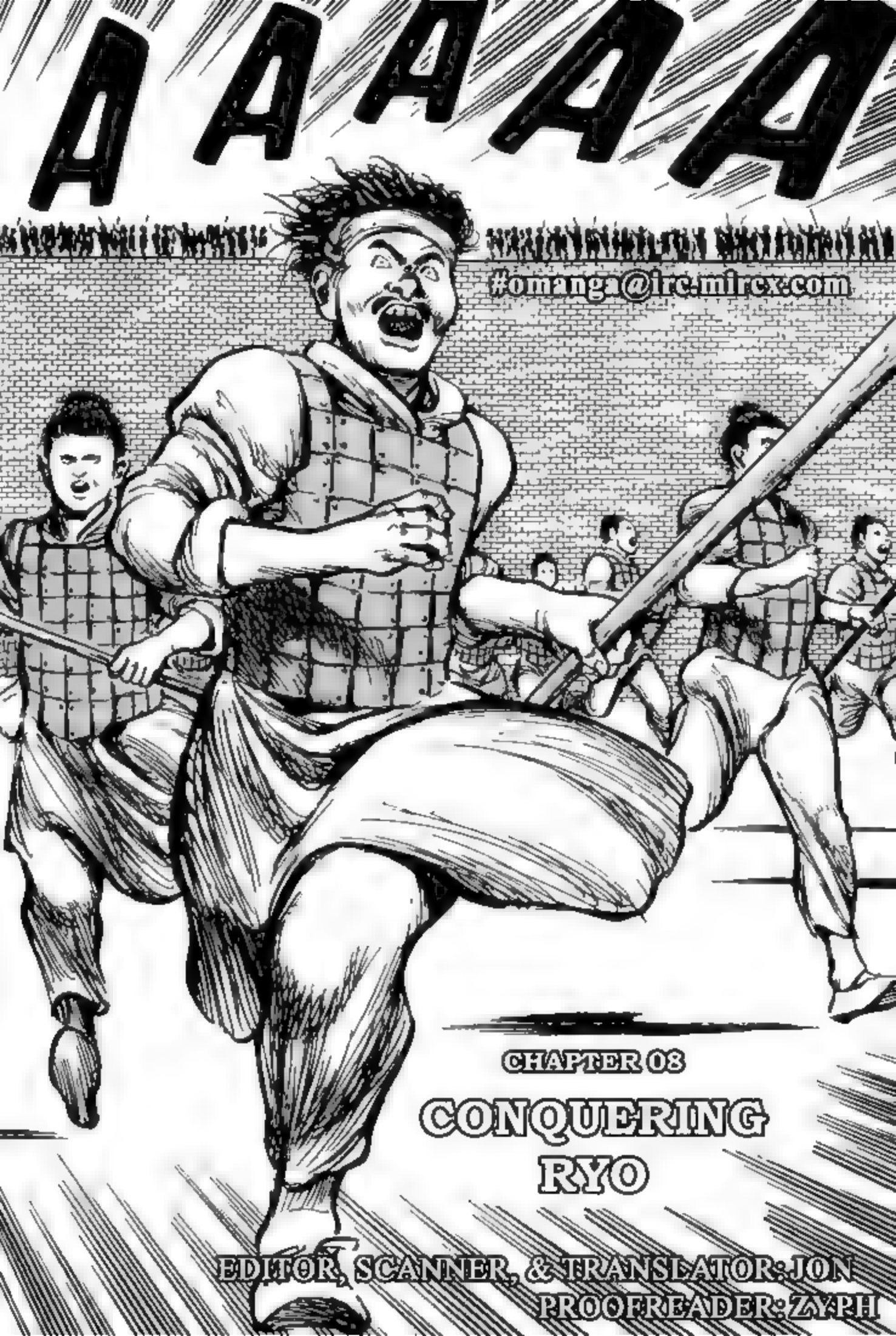

GHII

THEY DID IT!!
THE SOUTHERN GATE IS OPEN!!
TELL EVERYONE TO ENTER THE CITY BY THE SOUTHERN GATE!!

WAA
ARH!
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
ATTACK
!!!
THE CITY
OF RYO
IS OURS!!

WA
WA
WAAH
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

WAAA


AAAAA
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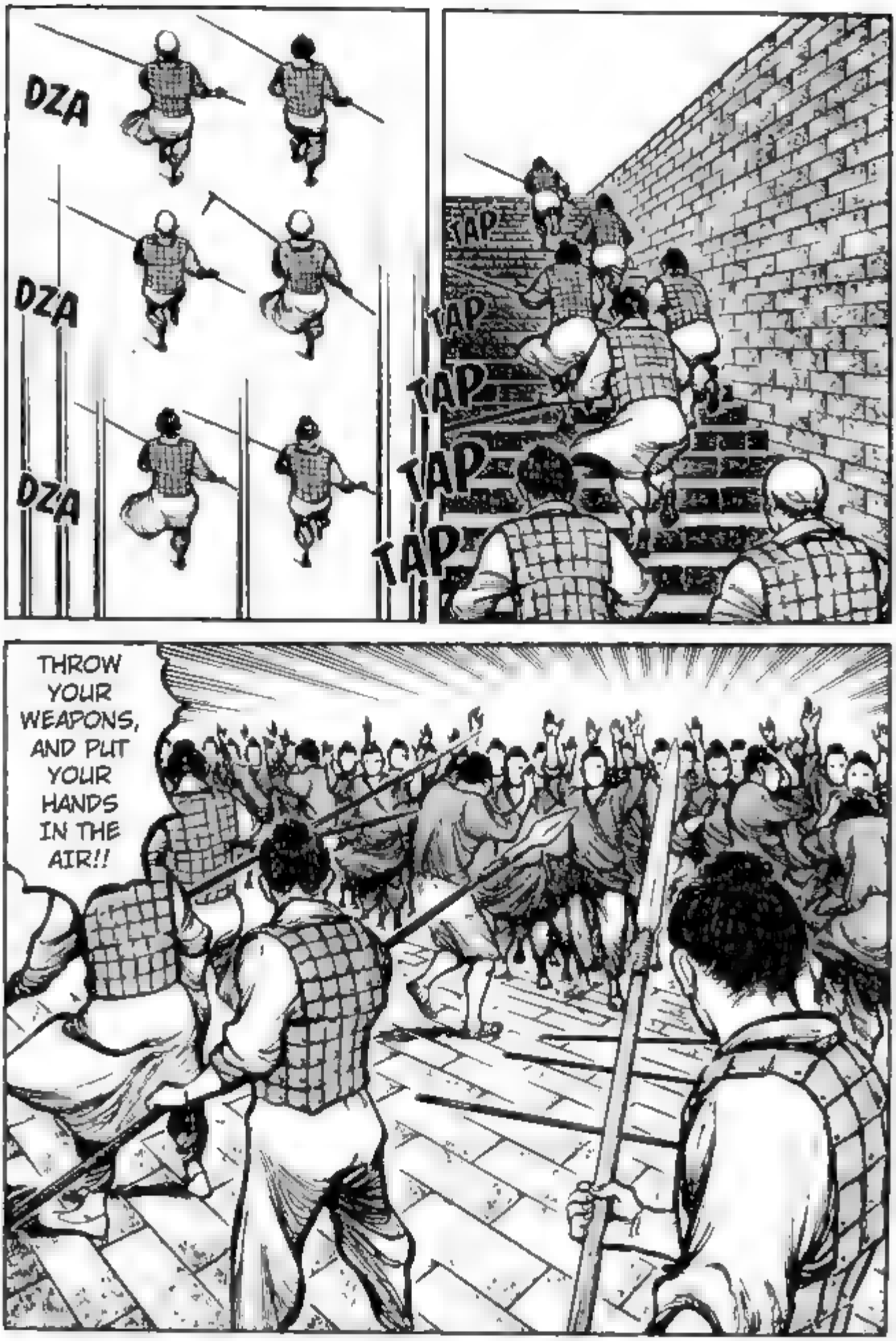
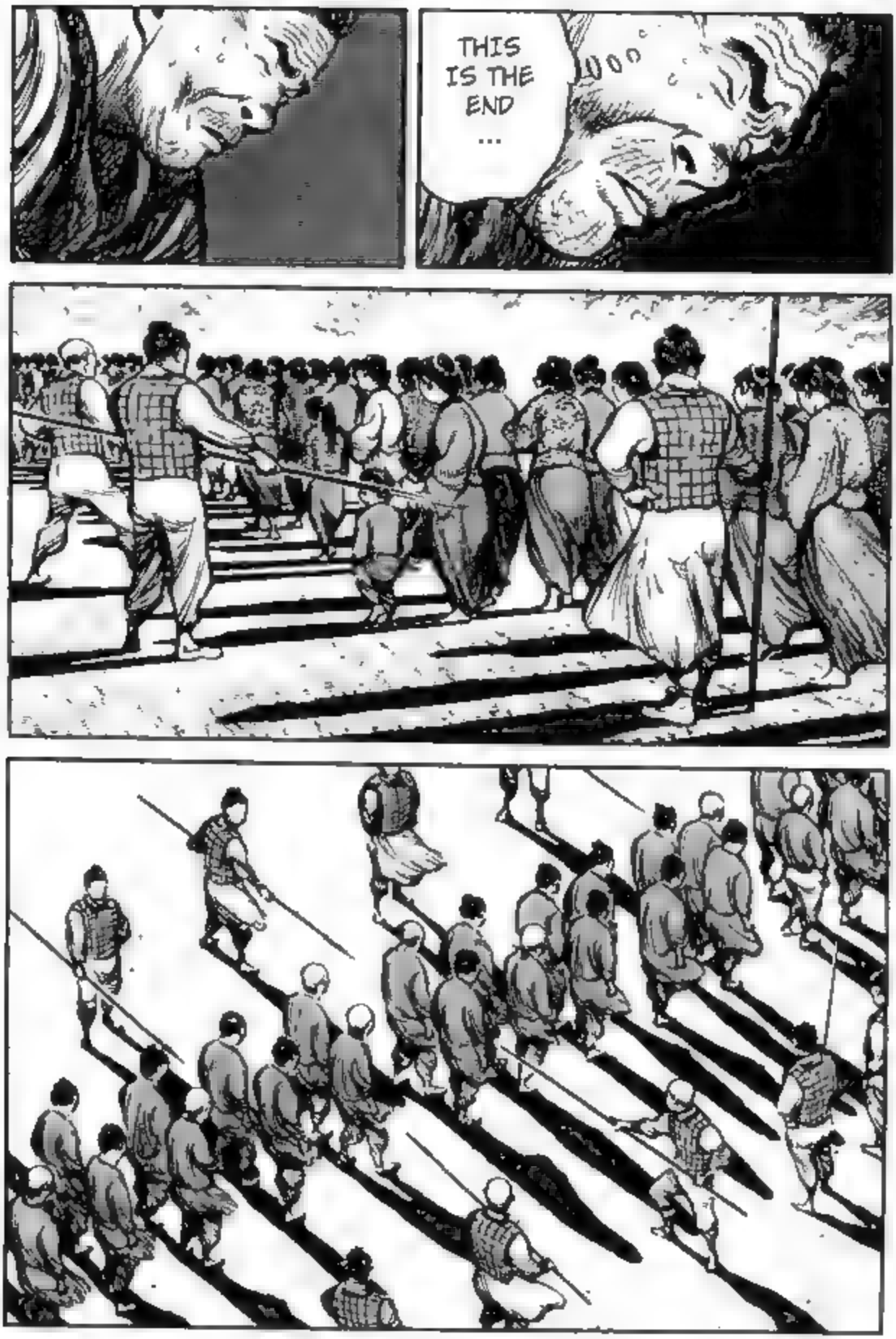
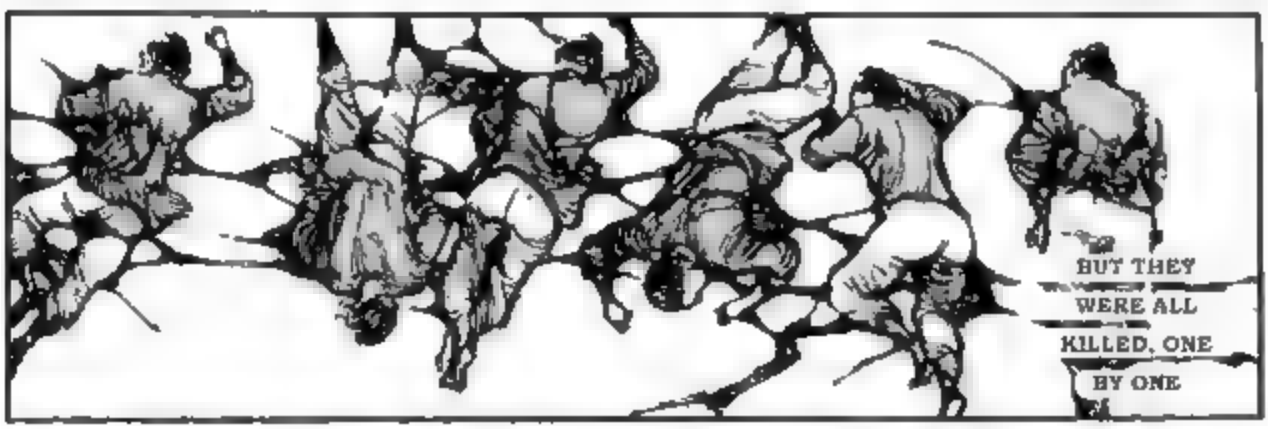
CHAPTER 08
CONQUERING
RYO
EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

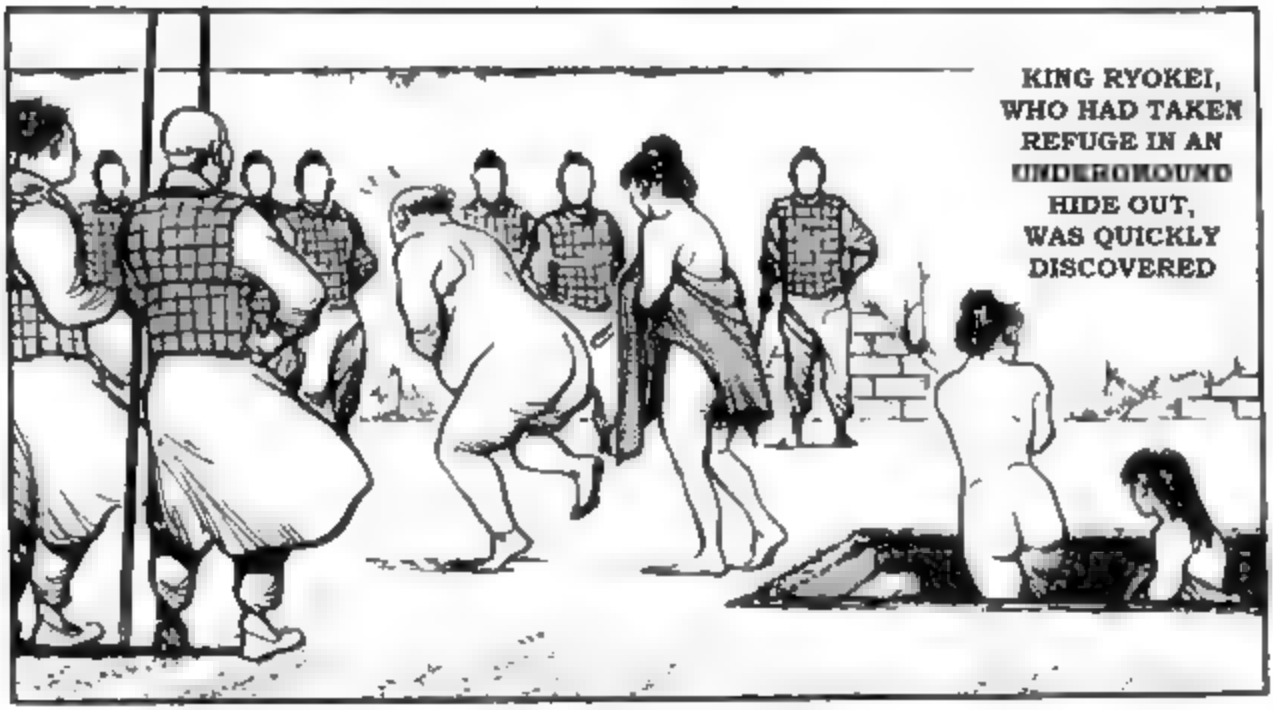

DZA
DZA
DZA
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
THROW YOUR WEAPONS, AND PUT YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR!!

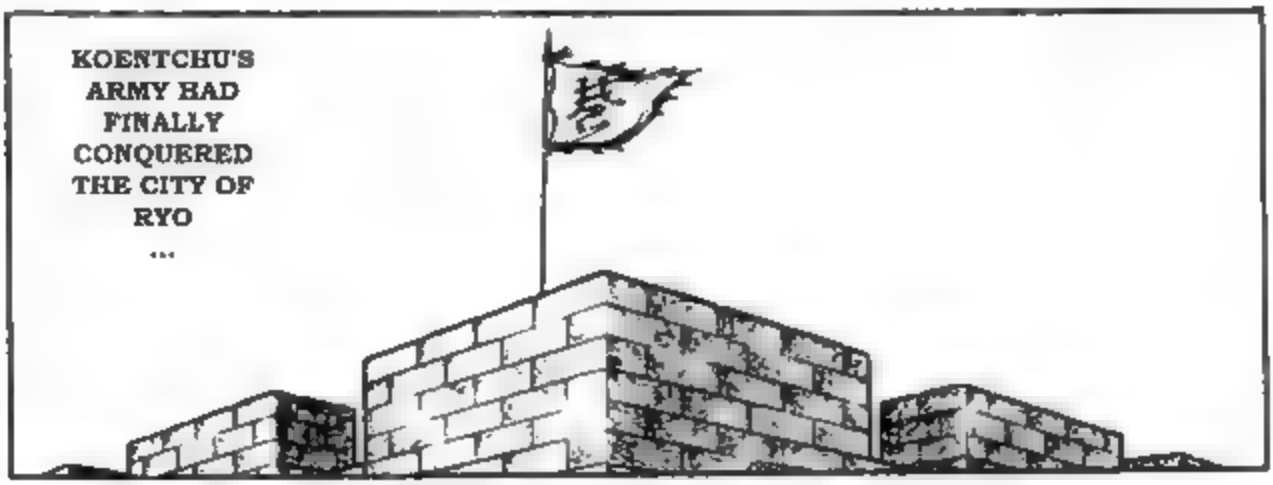
FLOP
STAND UP!
I SAID: STAND UP!

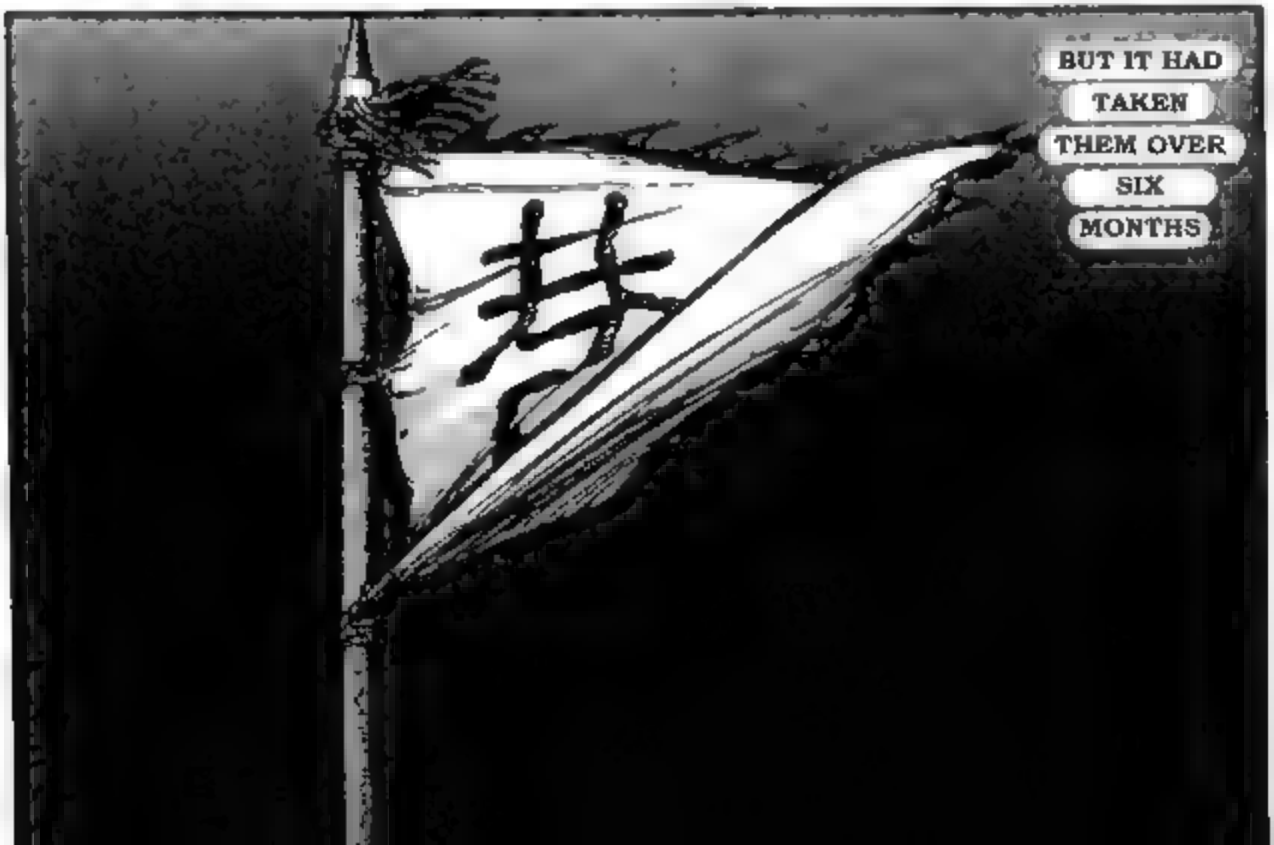

THIS IS THE END ...

WA
WA
WA
THERE WERE STILL THOSE WHO TRIED TO FIGHT. .


BUT THEY WERE ALL KILLED, ONE BY ONE


KING RYOKEI, WHO HAD TAKEN REFUGE IN AN UNDERGROUND HIDE OUT, WAS QUICKLY DISCOVERED

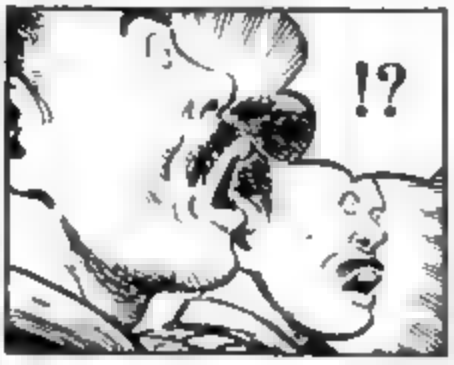

KOENTCHU'S ARMY HAD FINALLY CONQUERED THE CITY OF RYO
...


BUT IT HAD TAKEN THEM OVER SIX MONTHS

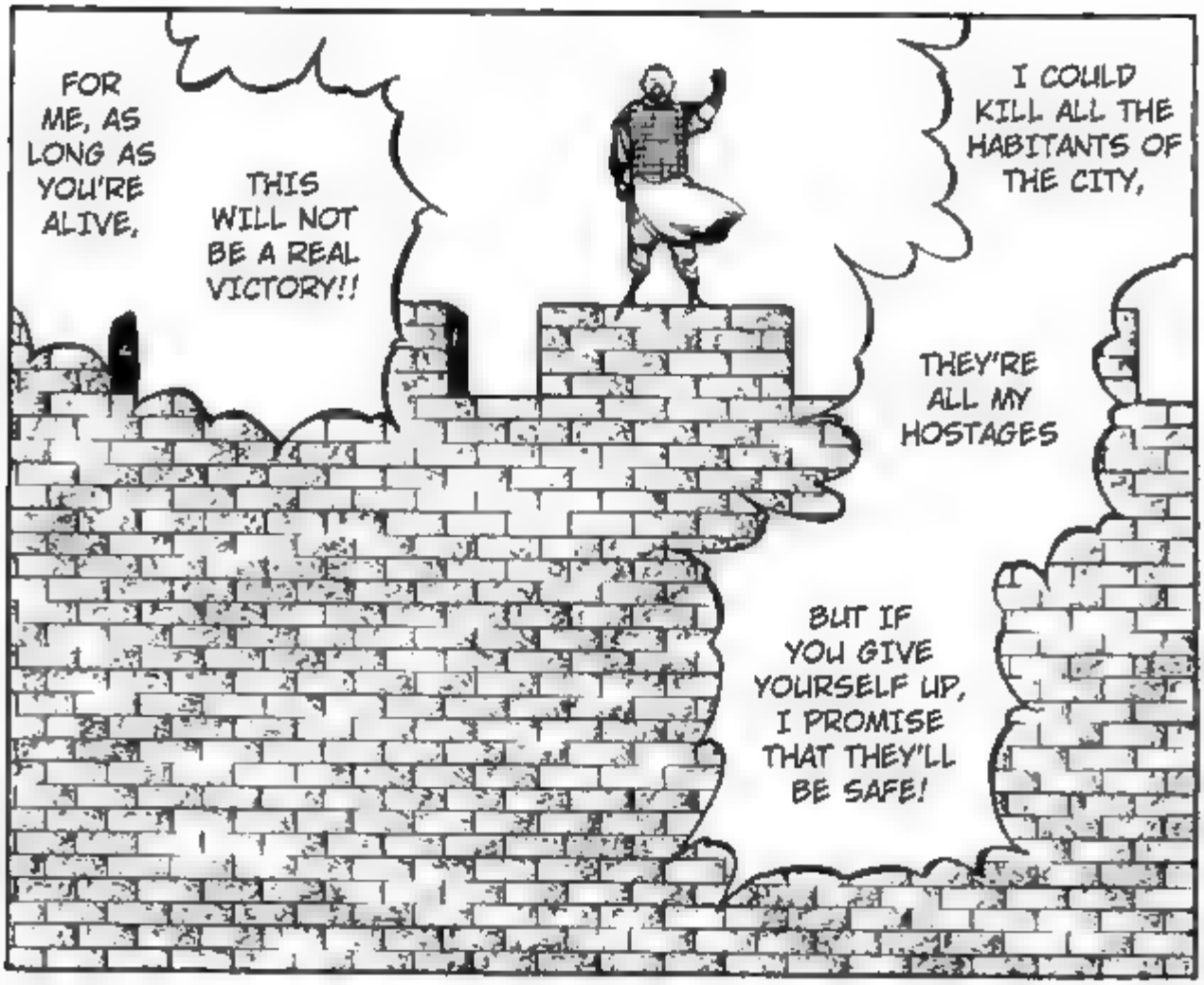
AND THE INHABI-TANTS?
THEY'RE ALL TIRED AND WEAK
THEY'RE TOO WORN OUT TO RESIST
OH, GREAT GENERAL, YOUR MEN WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN WITH THE WOMEN!
NO! THE BATTLE IS NOT YET OVER!!
HUH ??

HYOUH
YOUH

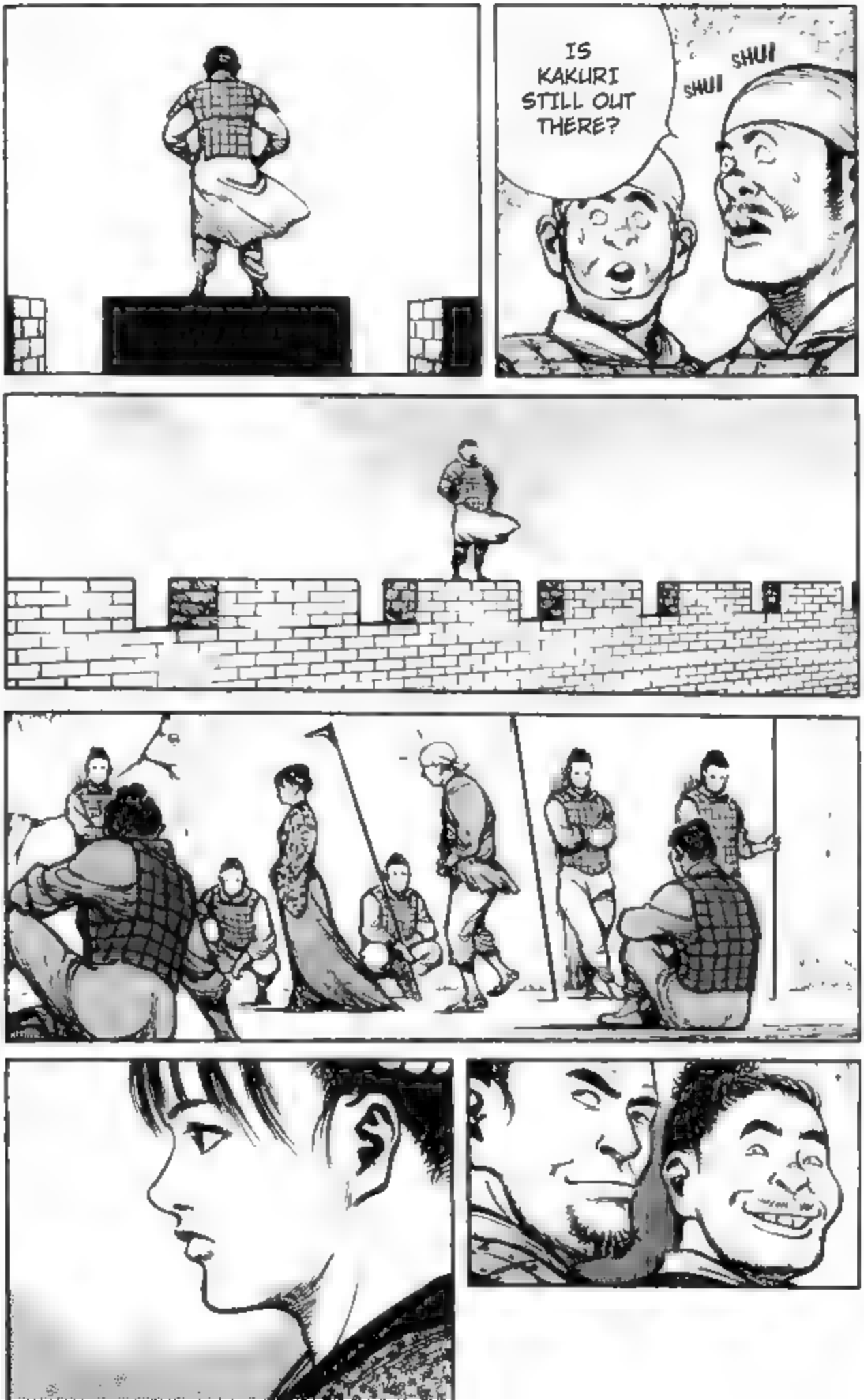
KAKURI, MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION!!
I KNOW THAT YOU CAN HEAR ME!!

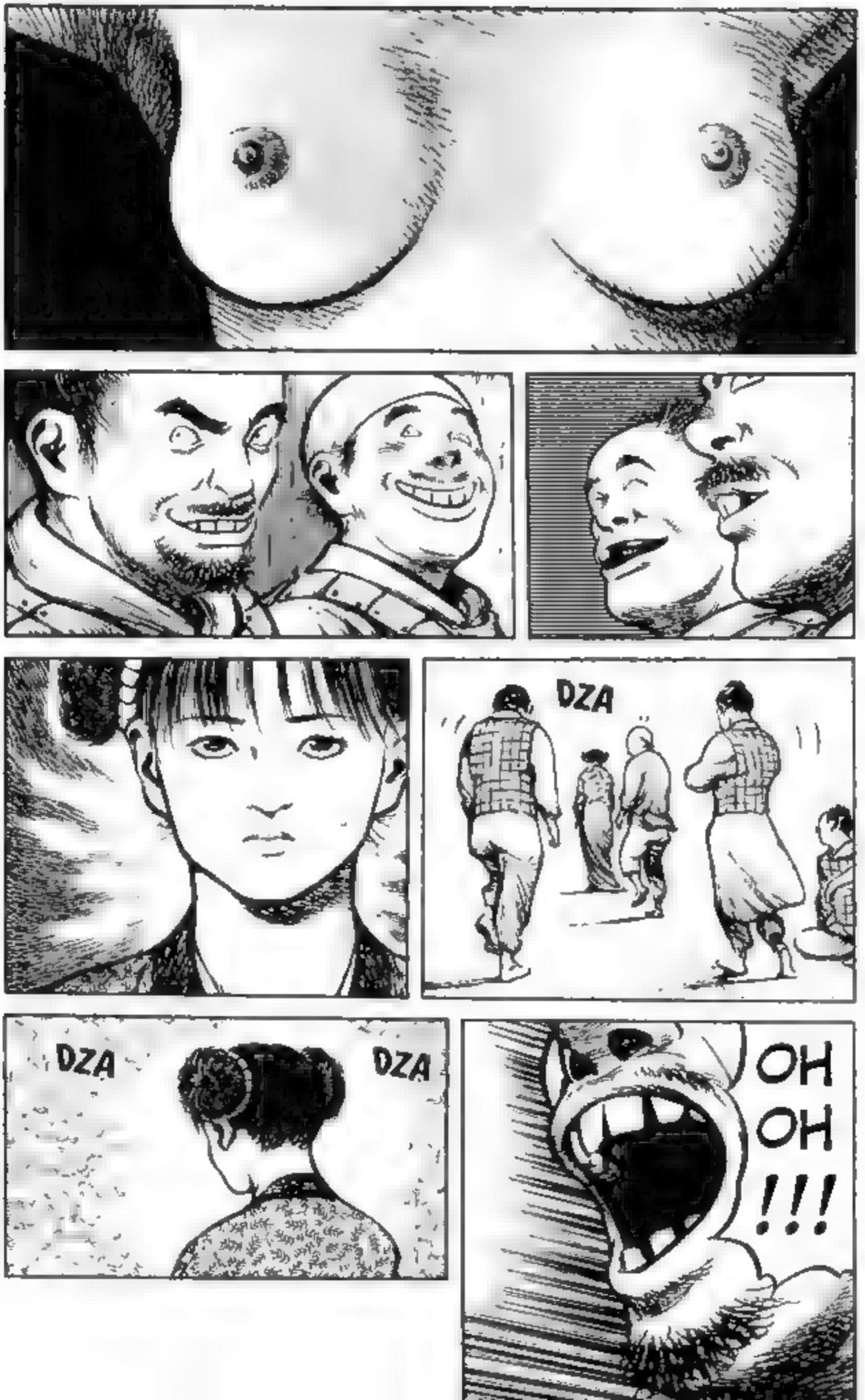

!?

??


FOR ME, AS LONG AS YOU'RE ALIVE,
THIS WILL NOT BE A REAL VICTORY!!
I COULD KILL ALL THE HABITANTS OF THE CITY,
THEY'RE ALL MY HOSTAGES
BUT IF YOU GIVE YOURSELF UP, I PROMISE THAT THEY'LL BE SAFE!

I WILL WAIT UNTIL MORNING!
IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY WILL ALL BE MASSACRED!


IS KAKURI STILL OUT THERE?
SHUI
SHUI


DZA
DZA
DZA
OH
OH
!!!

YOU HOU
YOU HOU
YOUH

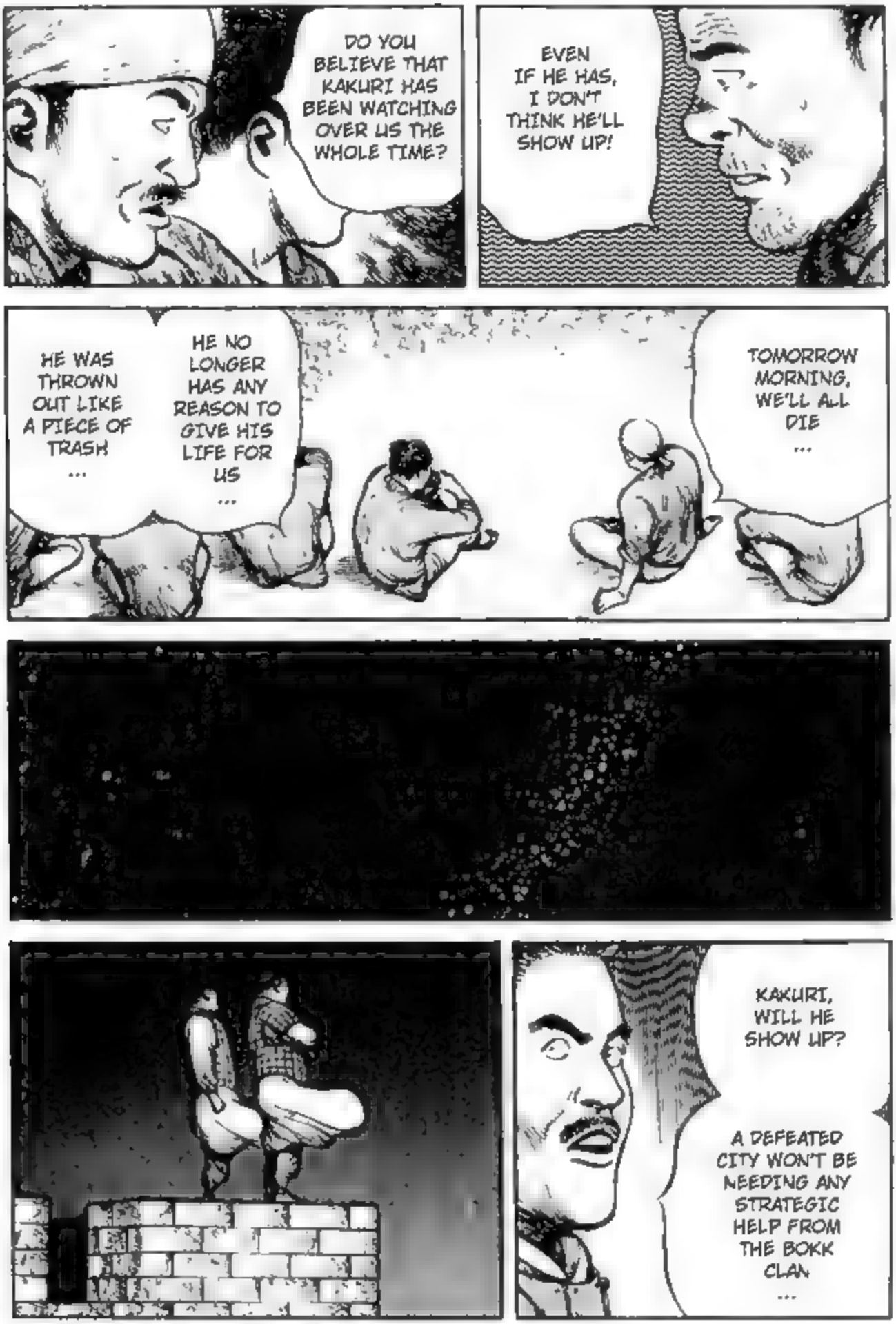
YOU HOU
YOU HOU

HIHI
HIHI
HIHI
!!!
HA
HA
HA
HA

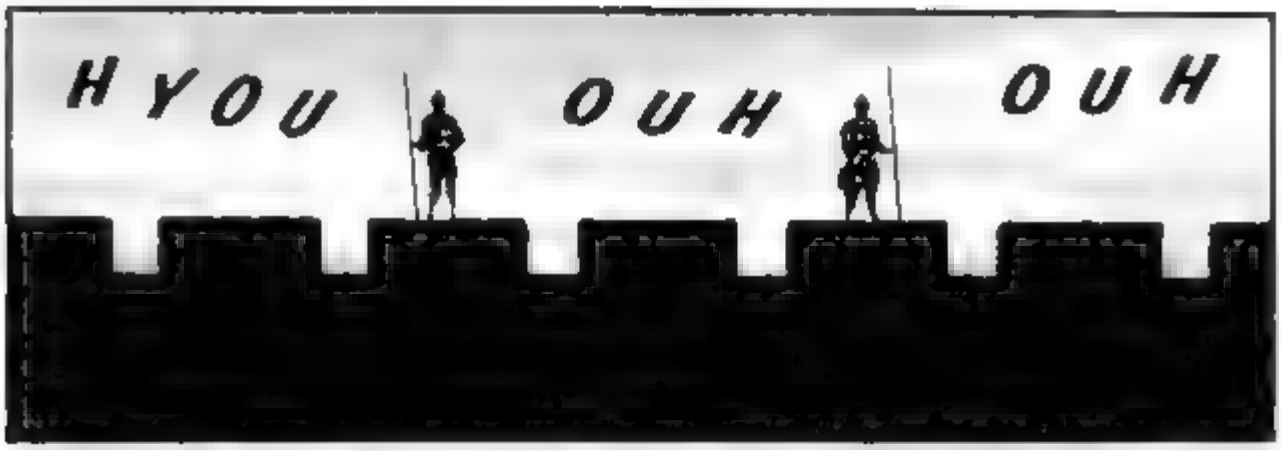
HE IS OVER HERE

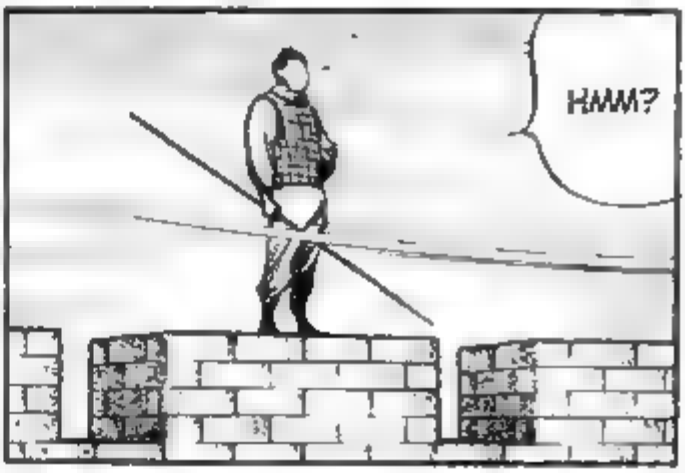
RYOTEKI!!

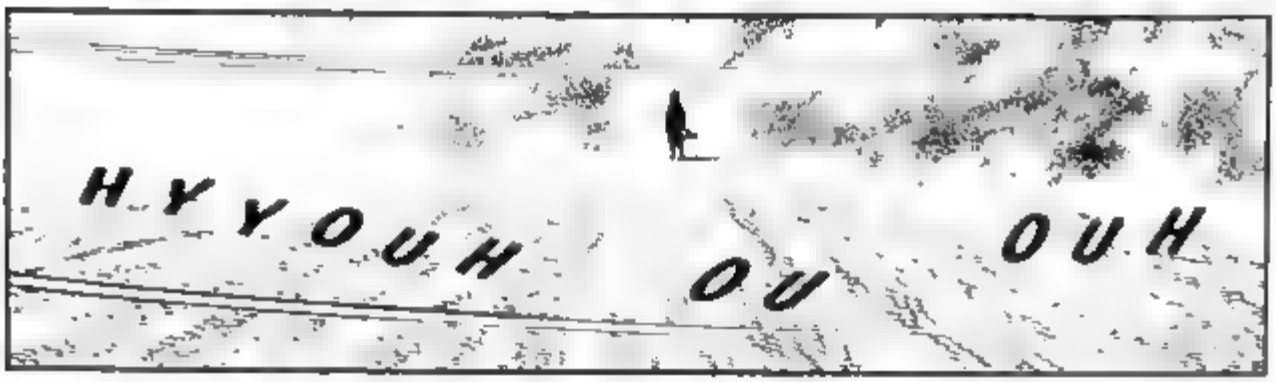
AH AH


DO YOU BELIEVE THAT KAKURI HAS BEEN WATCHING OVER US THE WHOLE TIME?
EVEN IF HE HAS, I DON'T THINK HE'LL SHOW UP!
HE WAS THROWN OUT LIKE A PIECE OF TRASH ...
HE NO LONGER HAS ANY REASON TO GIVE HIS LIFE FOR US ...
TOMORROW MORNING, WE'LL ALL DIE ...
KAKURI, WILL HE SHOW UP?
A DEFEATED CITY WON'T BE NEEDING ANY STRATEGIC HELP FROM THE BOKK CLAN ...

IF HE DOESN'T COME, THEN I WILL GO AFTER HIM!
?
I'LL LET THE INHABITANTS OF RYO LIVE IF THEY AGREE TO HELP ME FIND HIM!
WE'LL HUNT HIM DOWN AND KILL HIM!!
!!


HYOU
OUH
OUH


HMM?


HYYOUH
OU
OUH

HYOU
Wouou

HARK!

KAKURI!
KAKURI HAS
COME!!

TAP TAP TAP
KAKURI'S COMING!!
MISTER KAKURI!
HYOUH
YOUH
YOUH

KAKURI HAD RETURNED
HE CARRIED NO WEAPONS, HAD HE ALREADY GIVEN UP?
OR MAYBE...

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CHAPTER 09
THE SECRET PLAN

EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

KAKURI, JUST LIKE I EXPECTED!
YOU'LL SACRIFICE YOURSELF TO SAVE THE PEOPLE. YOU'RE REALLY WORTHY OF BEING A MAN OF BOKK
YOU'VE BEEN A TOUGH AND WORTHY OPPONENT DURING THESE SIX MONTHS!
H YOU
OU OU
OUH

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE BY MY HAND, THEN YOU CAN KILL YOURSELF
YOU CAN CHOOSE BY YOURSELF HOW YOU WANT TO DIE!

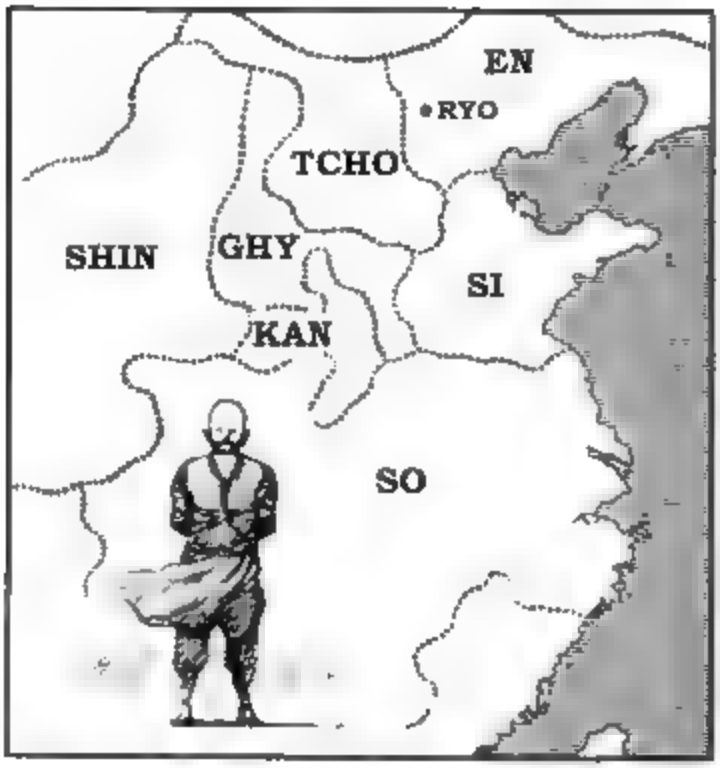
I WANT TO SPEAK TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY

I SEE,
BID THEM FAREWELL QUIETLY!

THE EKISUI RIVER
GAP
GAP
IN THE CITY
SNIF
SNIF

HE CAME HERE TO SAVE US
STRANGE, HE TOLD ME HE WANTED TO SPEAK TO THE PEOPLE, BUT HE HASN'T SAID A WORD!
HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE PREPARED TO DIE

HEY! WHAT IN GODS NAME ARE YOU DOING??
KEEP SILENT! ... EVERYONE LISTEN!
CAN'T YOU HEAR THE GROUND SHAKING?
THE GODS HAVE BROUGHT AN ARMY HERE TO PUNISH YOUR VANITY!
AN ARMY ???
BAYA
WAYA


EN
RYO
TCHO
SHIN
GHY
SI
KAN
SO

WHAT IF...
COULD HE HAVE LEFT THE CITY TO SEEK HELP FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY?

OUCH!

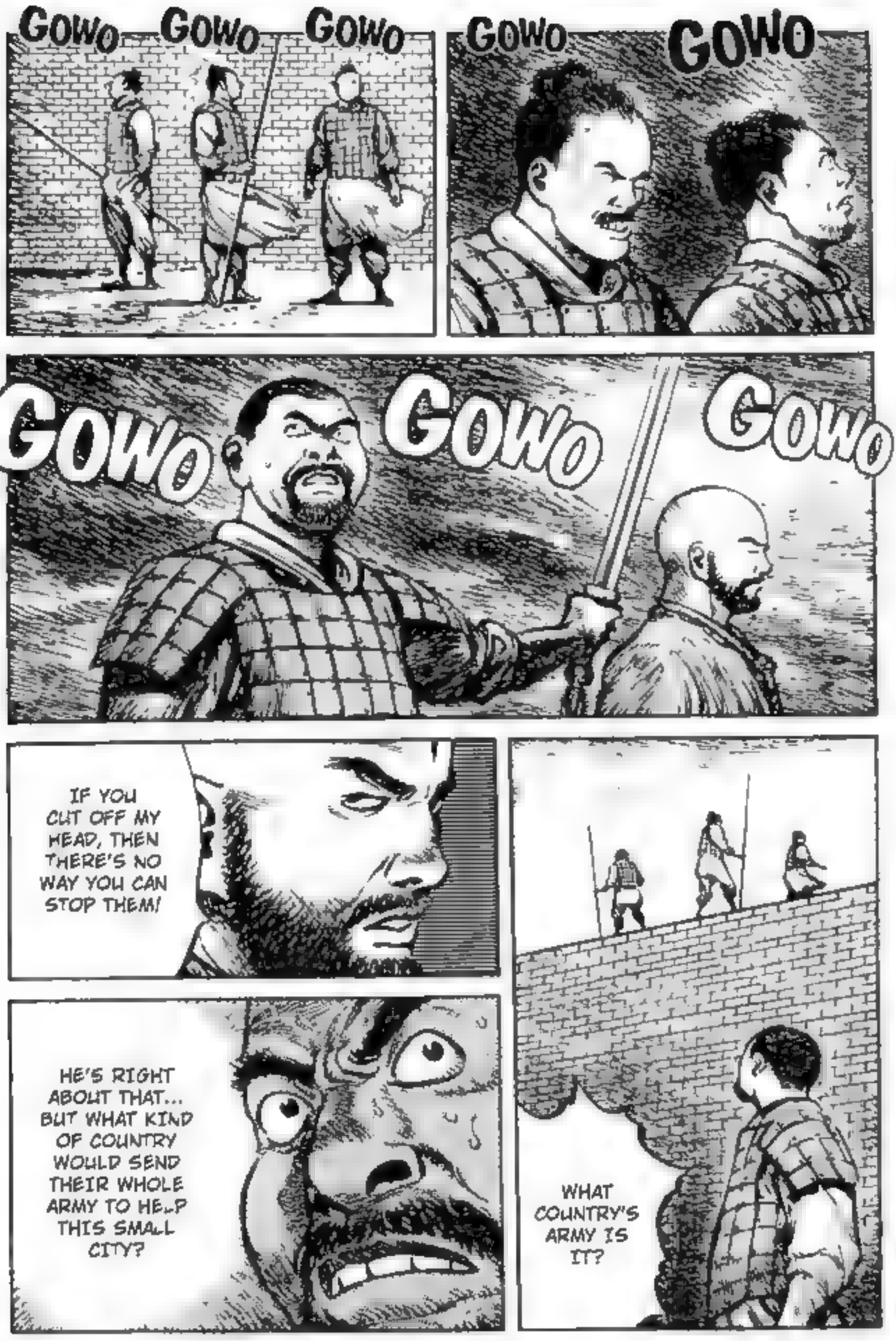
FLO
FLO
FLO

FLO
FLO
FLO

FLO
THIS IS BAD!!
FLO
FLO
PSCHH
FLAF
GOWO
GOWO

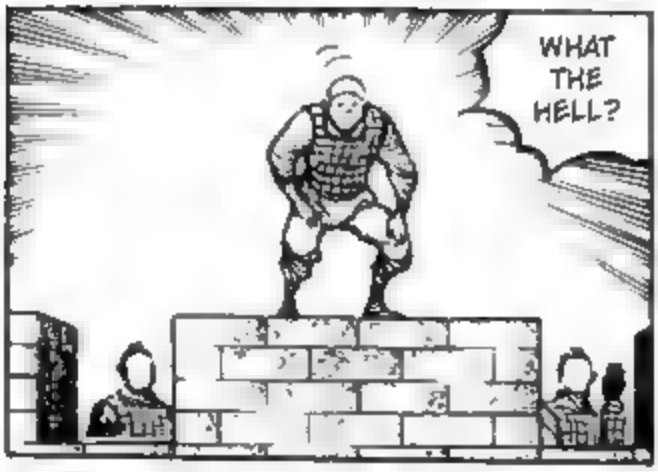
HYAAH
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO

I CAN'T UNDER-STAND ...
AN ARMY? I DON'T BELIEVE YOU!
WITH THIS FINE SWORD, I WILL CUT YOUR HEAD CLEAN OFF!


GOWO GOWO GOWO
GOWO GOWO
GOWO GOWO GOWO
IF YOU CUT OFF MY HEAD, THEN THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN STOP THEM!
HE'S RIGHT ABOUT THAT... BUT WHAT KIND OF COUNTRY WOULD SEND THEIR WHOLE ARMY TO HELP THIS SMALL CITY?
WHAT COUNTRY'S ARMY IS IT?

I CAN NOT TELL!
FOOL! JUST LOOK AT THEIR FLAG!
I CAN'T! I CAN ONLY HEAR THE THUNDERING GROUND, BUT I DO NOT SEE ANYTHING!
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO
AN INVISIBLE ARMY?
THAT'S ABSURD!!
CALM DOWN!!
WAAA
WAAA

GOWO
GOWO
GOWO


WHAT THE HELL?

GOWO
SPLASH

WAA

AAAA

DZAAAH
GHYA AAAAA AARH!
NYAA AAAA ARH!

GOWO GOWO
TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON!!

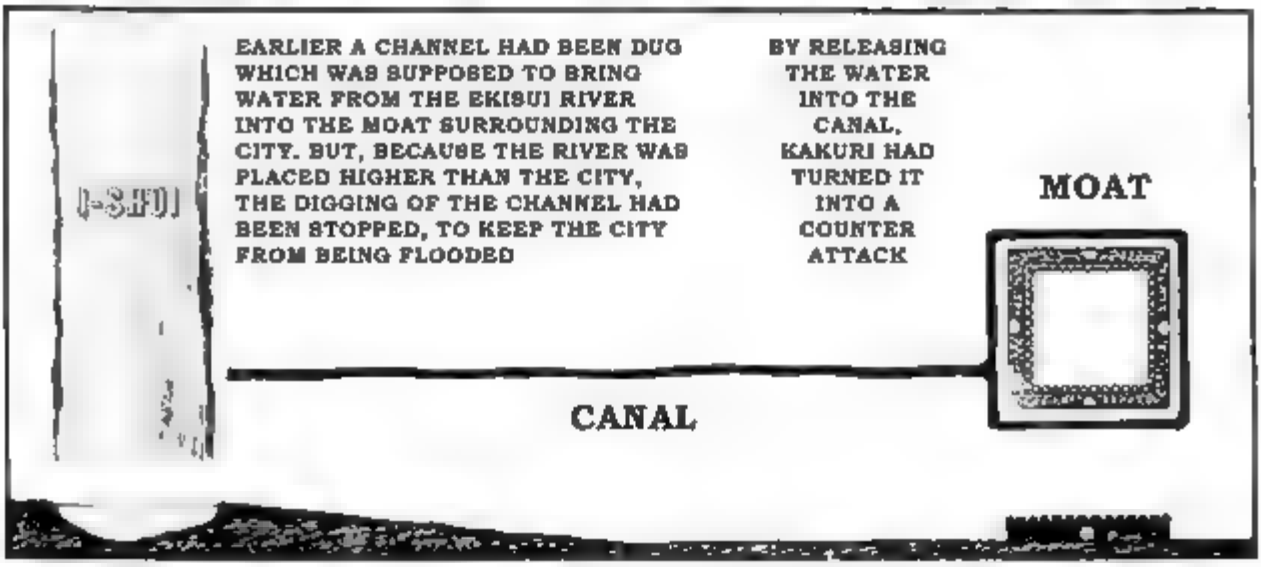
DZAH

SHIOUU
KAKURI

MISTER KAKURI!!
DZAH

TO COUNTER ATTACK, WE DUG A CANAL FROM THE EKISUI RIVER!

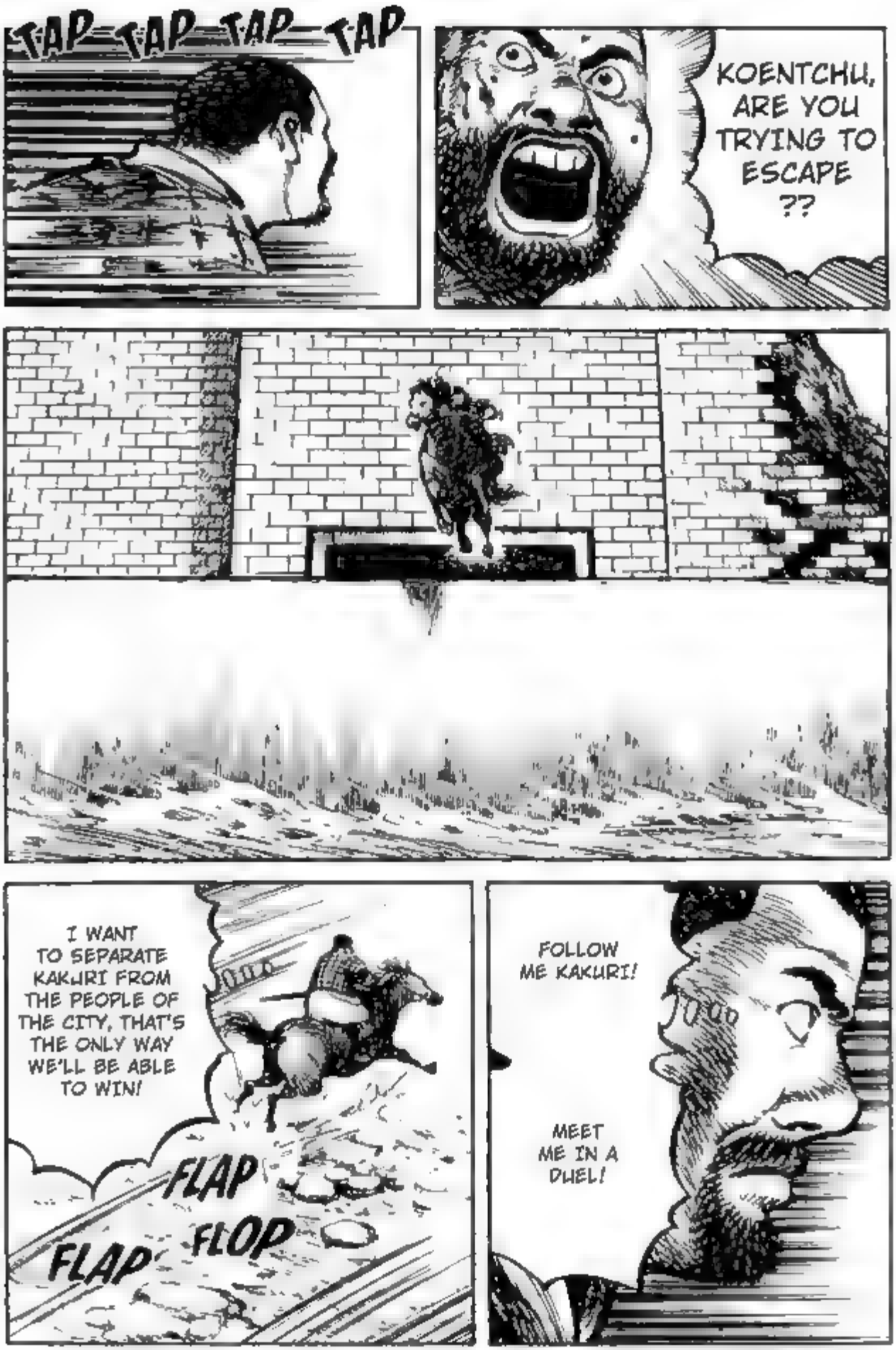
WHAT? HOW THE HELL..?

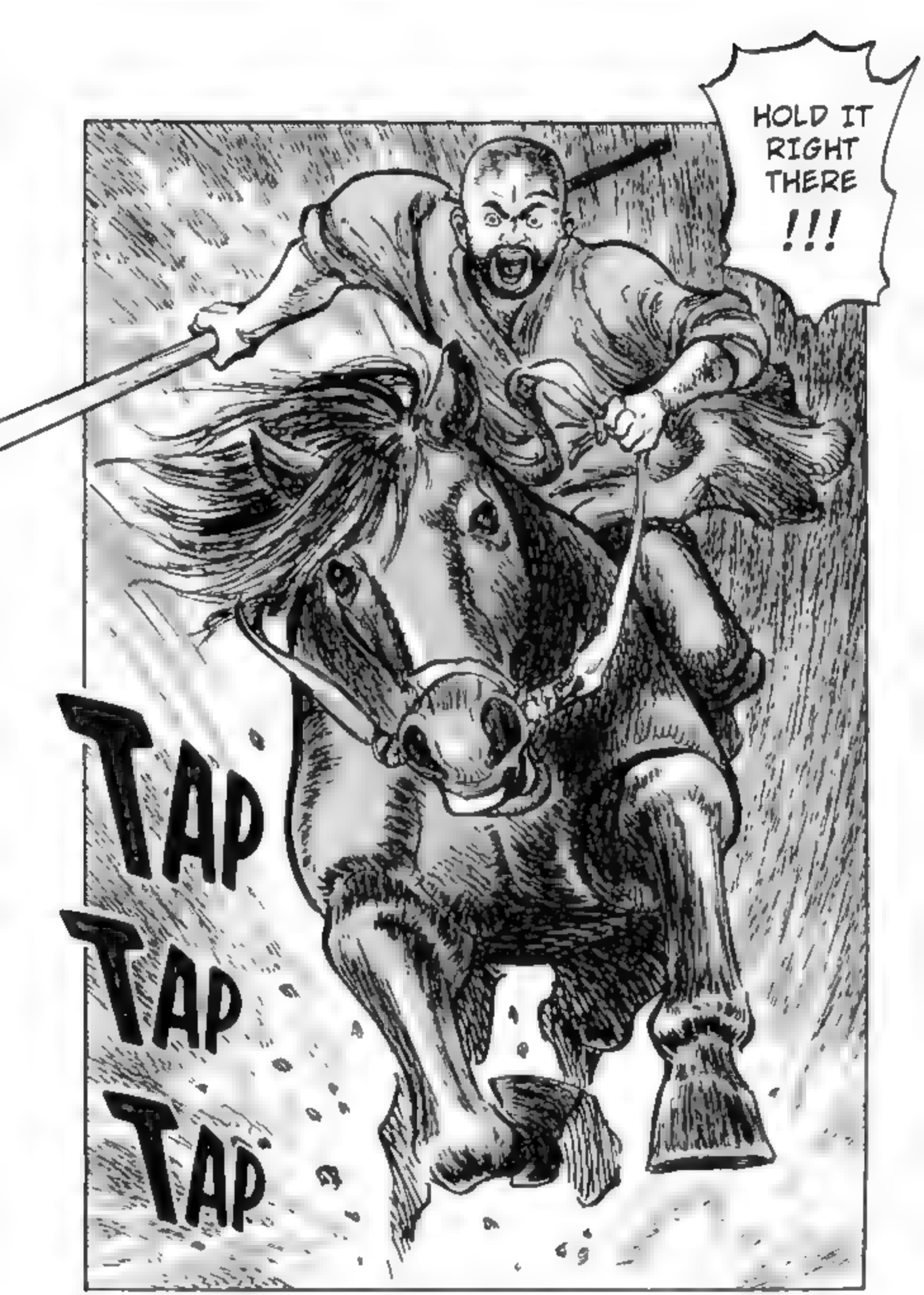

EARLIER A CHANNEL HAD BEEN DUG WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO BRING WATER FROM THE EKISUI RIVER INTO THE MOAT SURROUNDING THE CITY. BUT, BECAUSE THE RIVER WAS PLACED HIGHER THAN THE CITY, THE DIGGING OF THE CHANNEL HAD BEEN STOPPED, TO KEEP THE CITY FROM BEING FLOODED
BY RELEASING THE WATER INTO THE CANAL, KAKURI HAD TURNED IT INTO A COUNTER ATTACK
MOAT
CANAL

KILL ALL SOLDIERS OF TCHO!!
TAP TAP
WA-A-H
WASHA
WASHA

FLOSH
GOWO
GOWO
GOWO
BASTARD! YOU KILLED MY FRIEND!!
SHIOUUU

SLAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
!!


TAP TAP TAP TAP
KOENTCHU, ARE YOU TRYING TO ESCAPE ??
I WANT TO SEPARATE KAKURI FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY, THAT'S THE ONLY WAY WE'LL BE ABLE TO WIN!
FLAP
FLOP
FLAP
FOLLOW ME KAKURI!
MEET ME IN A DUEL!


HOLD IT RIGHT THERE !!!
TAP
TAP
TAP

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CHAPTER 10
THE END

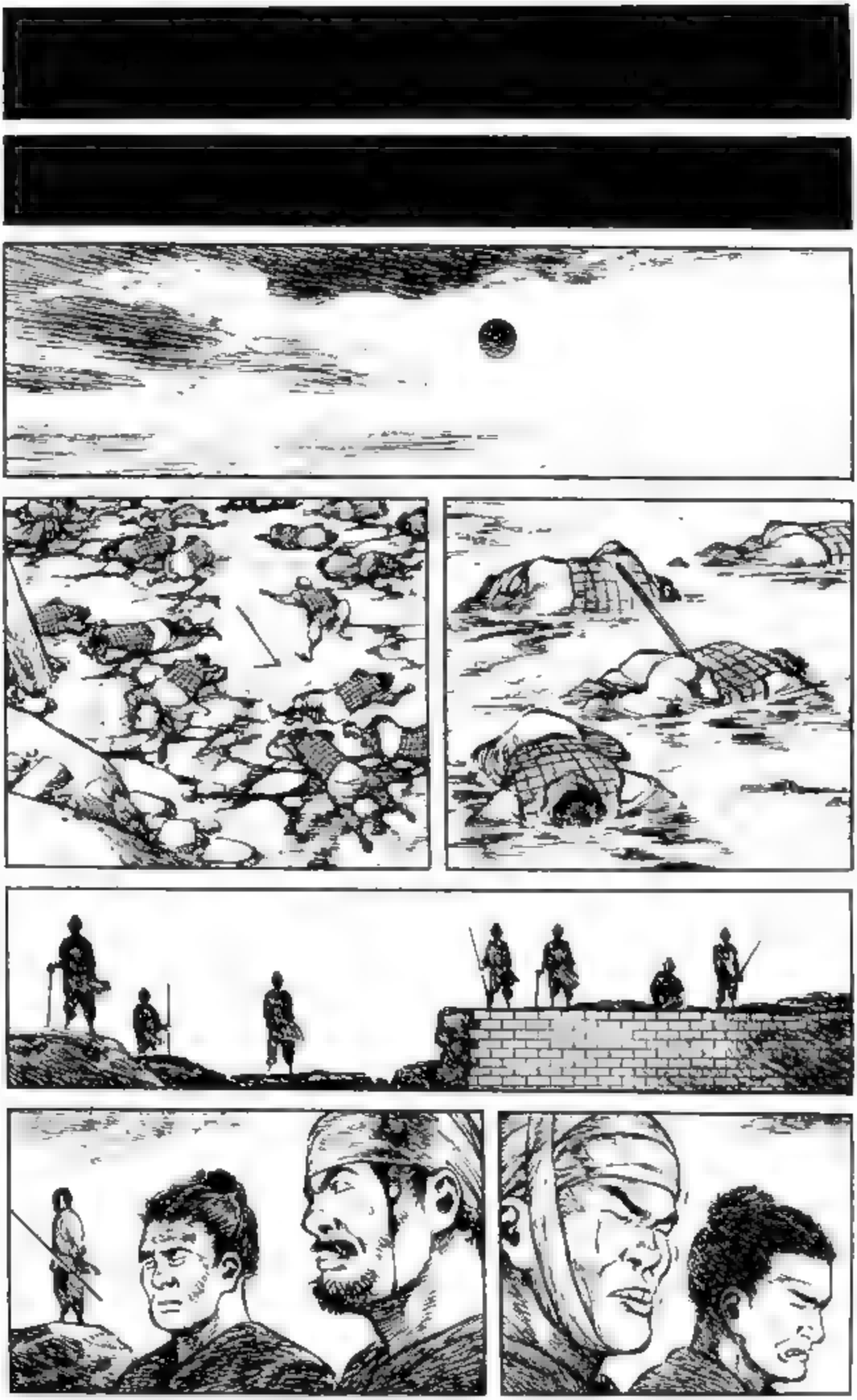
EDITOR, SCANNER, & TRANSLATOR: JON
PROOFREADER: ZYPH

GOWO

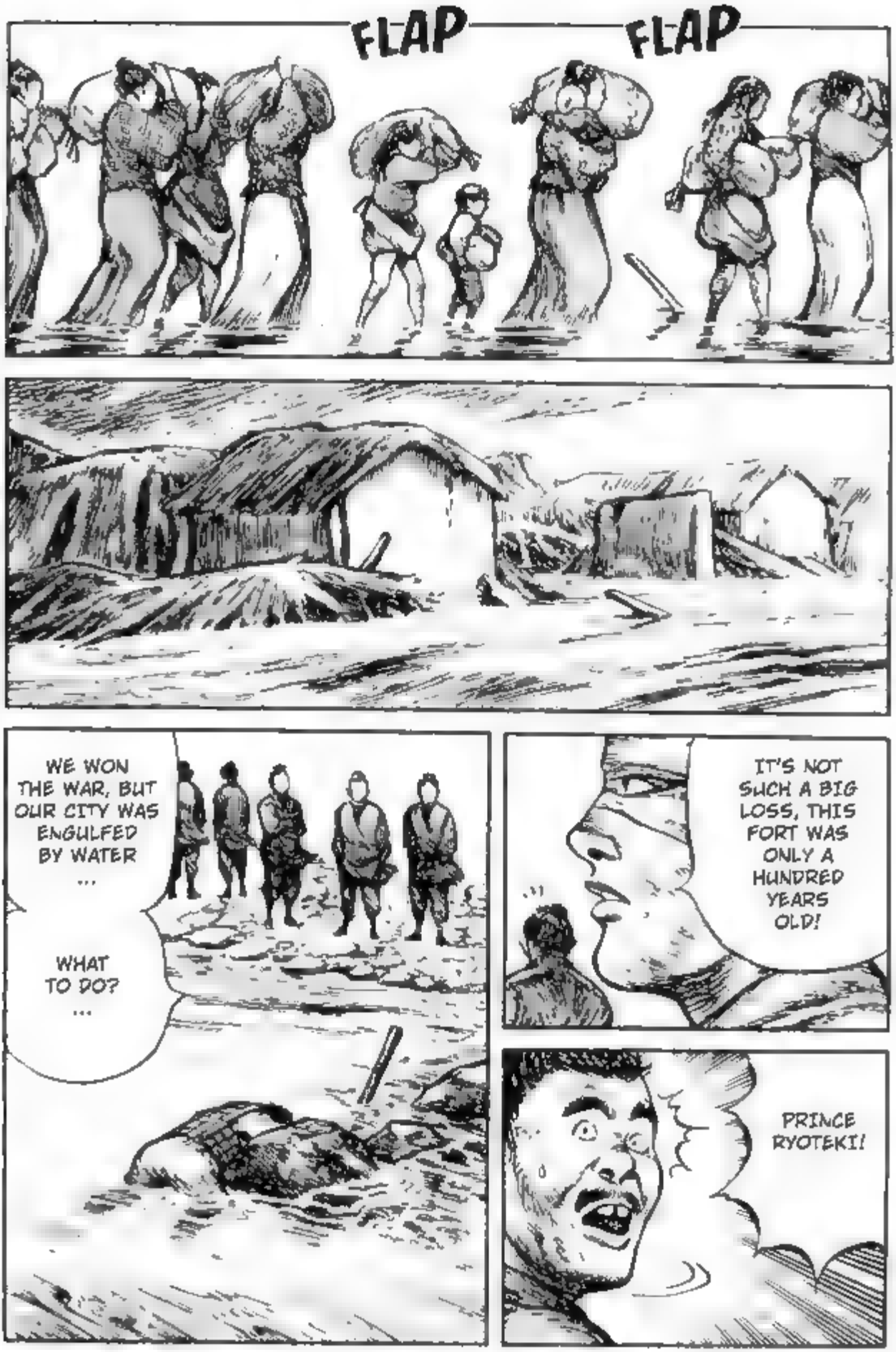
GOWO

GOWO

GOWO

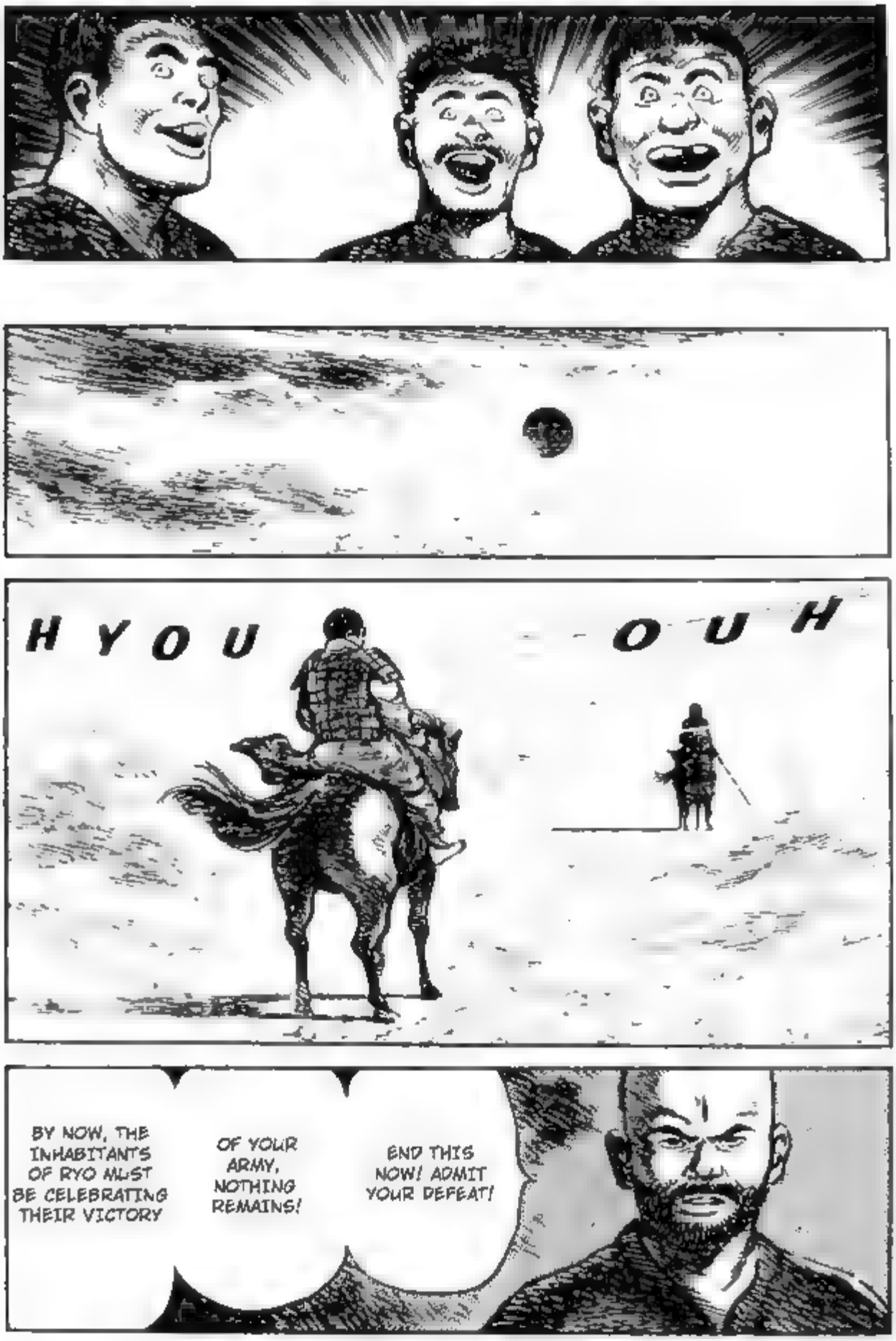


WE DID IT ...
WE WON!
WE WOO-OON!

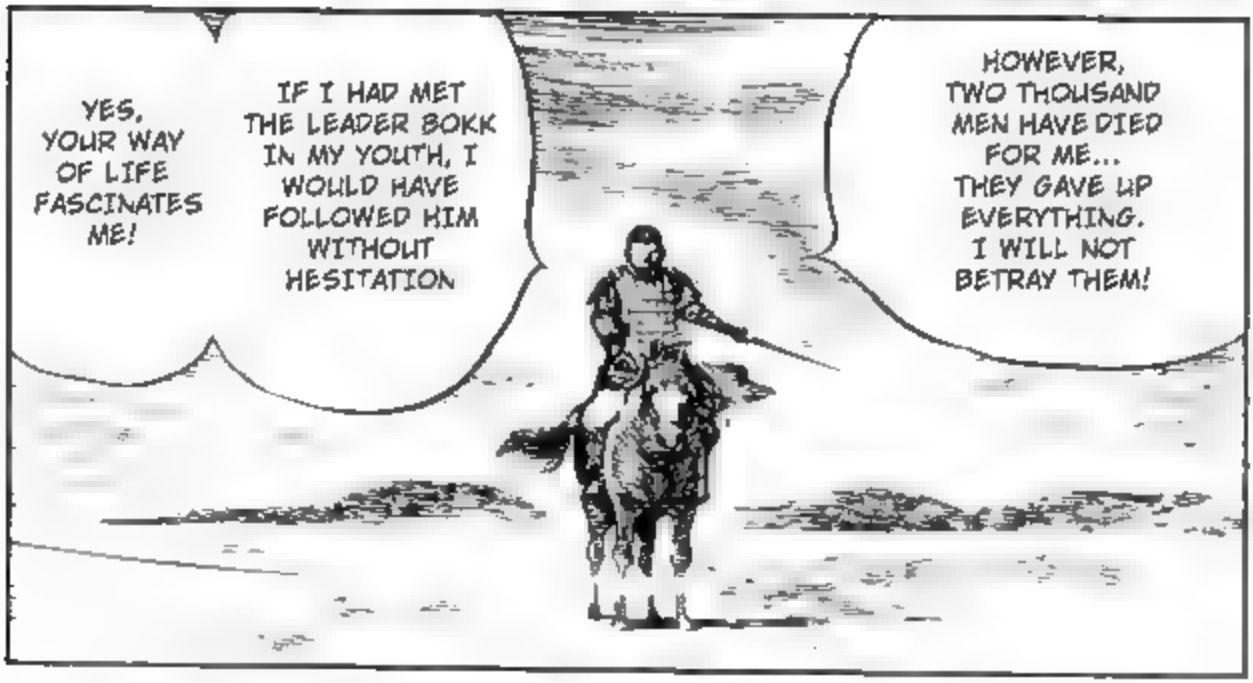

FLAP
FLAP
WE WON THE WAR, BUT OUR CITY WAS ENGULFED BY WATER ...
WHAT TO DO? ...
IT'S NOT SUCH A BIG LOSS, THIS FORT WAS ONLY A HUNDRED YEARS OLD!
PRINCE RYOTEKI!

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO RISE AGAIN!
AS SOON AS I GET BETTER, I WILL VISIT ALL THE OTHER COUNTRIES,
TO EXTEND MY KNOWLEDGE IN ORDER TO RECONSTRUCT THIS CITY!
THIS CITY HAS BEEN AROUND FOR FIVE CENTURIES, AND IT WILL BE HERE FOR ANOTHER THOUSAND!!
TELL ME, WHERE DID KAKURI GO?
HE TOOK OFF ON A HORSE IN PURSUIT OF KOENTCHU ...
IT WAS QUITE SOME TIME AGO!

HE HASN'T RETURNED?
NO, SAIKYU AND THE OTHERS ARE OUT SEARCHING FOR HIM
.....
YOU SHOULD GO TOO!
AND TELL HIM THIS:
I KNOW THAT HE'S NO LONGER A MEMBER OF THE BOKK CLAN. AND HE'LL NEVER BE AGAIN
IF HE WANTS TO, HE CAN COME AND LIVE WITH US!
HE WILL BE AN IMPORTANT ASSET IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THIS CITY!
TELL HIM THAT I NEED HIM!


HYOU
OUH
BY NOW, THE INHABITANTS OF RYO MUST BE CELEBRATING THEIR VICTORY
OF YOUR ARMY, NOTHING REMAINS!
END THIS NOW! ADMIT YOUR DEFEAT!

IF YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE MADNESS OF WAR, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO START A NEW LIFE
DON'T YOU WANT TO SHARE YOUR LIFE WITH ME, AS A MAN OF BOKK?


YES, YOUR WAY OF LIFE FASCINATES ME!
IF I HAD MET THE LEADER BOKK IN MY YOUTH, I WOULD HAVE FOLLOWED HIM WITHOUT HESITATION
HOWEVER, TWO THOUSAND MEN HAVE DIED FOR ME... THEY GAVE UP EVERYTHING. I WILL NOT BETRAY THEM!

I AM NOT ALONE
WITH A SWORD IN MY RIGHT HAND, AND THE REINS IN MY LEFT ...
I CARRY THE HEARTS OF TWO THOUSAND WARRIORS WITH ME!

DIE, KAKURI!
HY AA AH
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

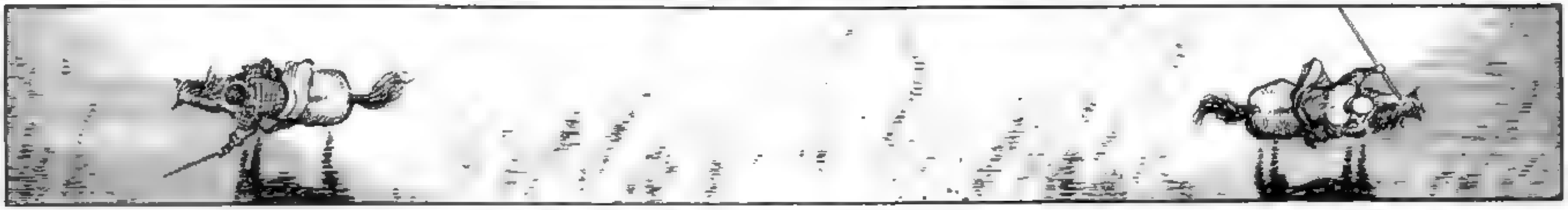
TAP

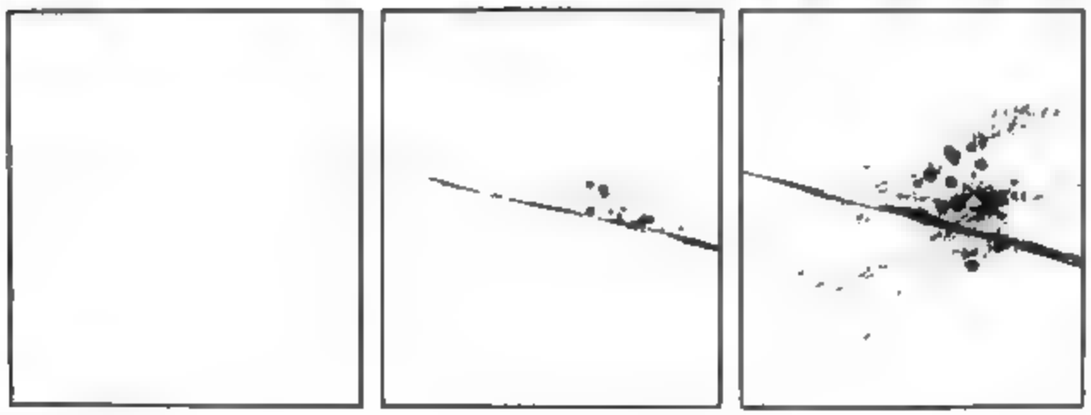
TAP

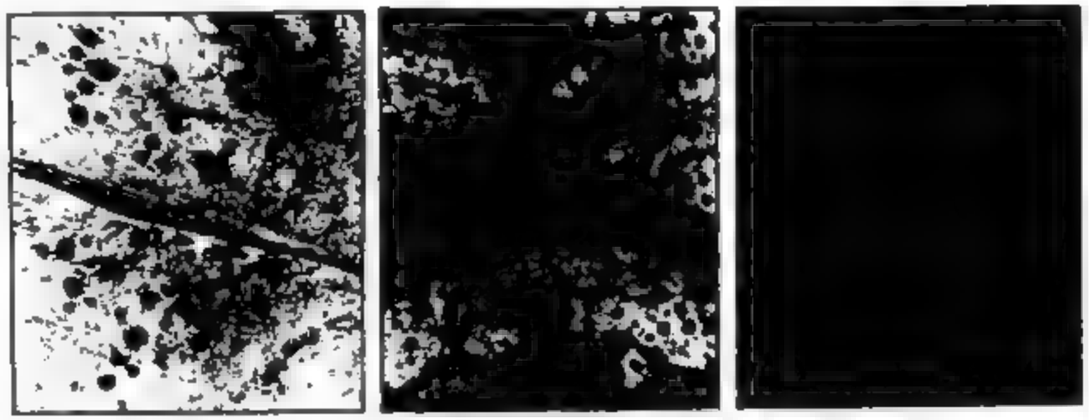
TA

PSSC

HUOU

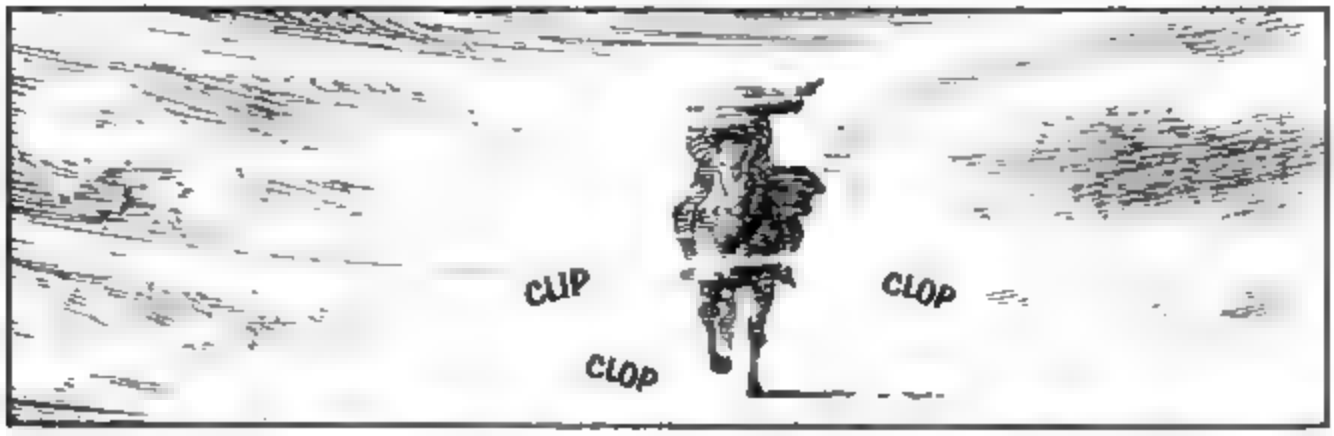


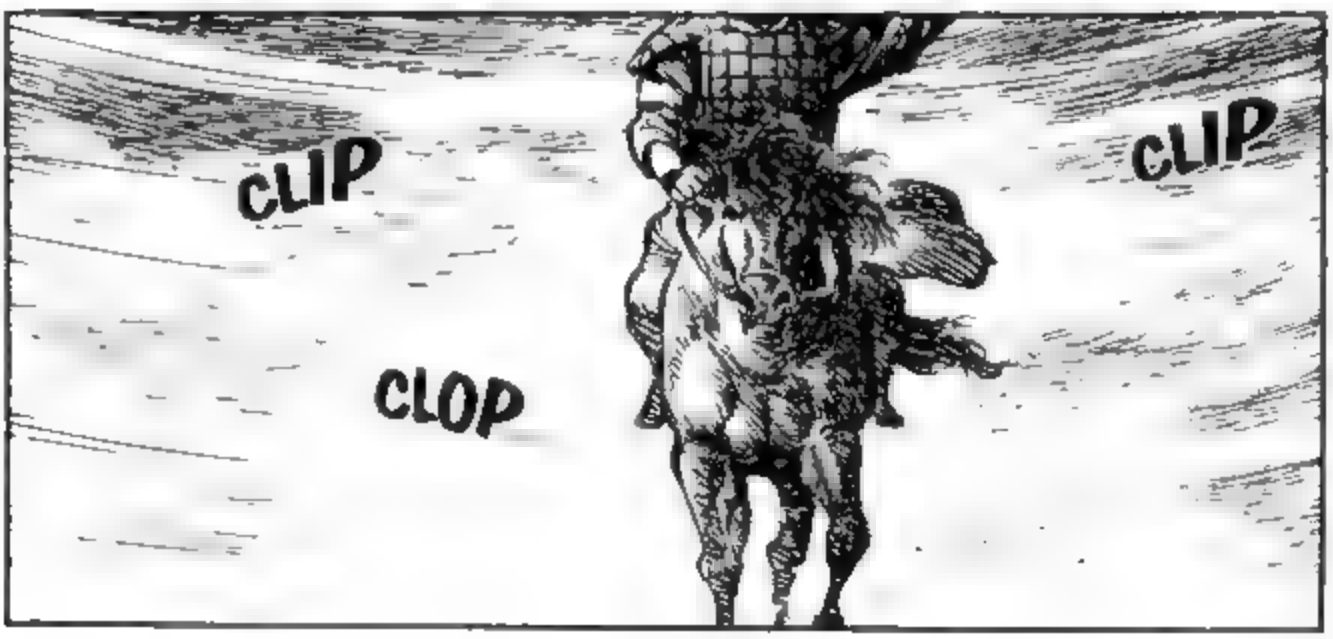


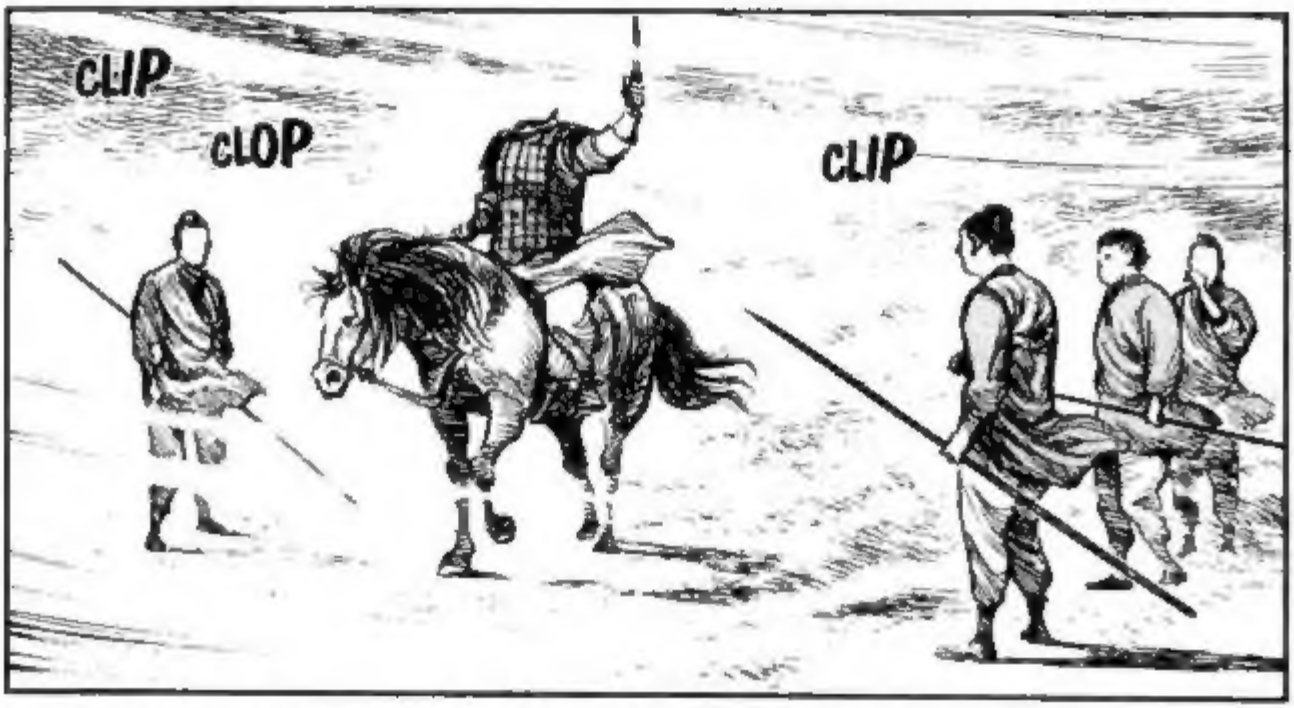


MISTER KAKURI
MISTER KAKURI
MISTER KAKURI
AYOUU
OH

CLIP
CLOP

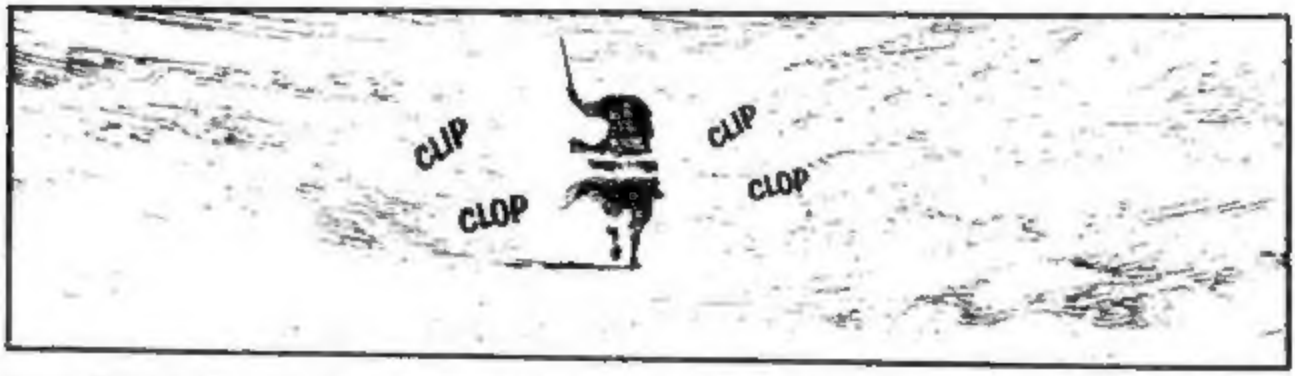

CLIP
CLOP
CLOP


CLIP
CLIP
CLOP


CLIP
CLOP
CLIP

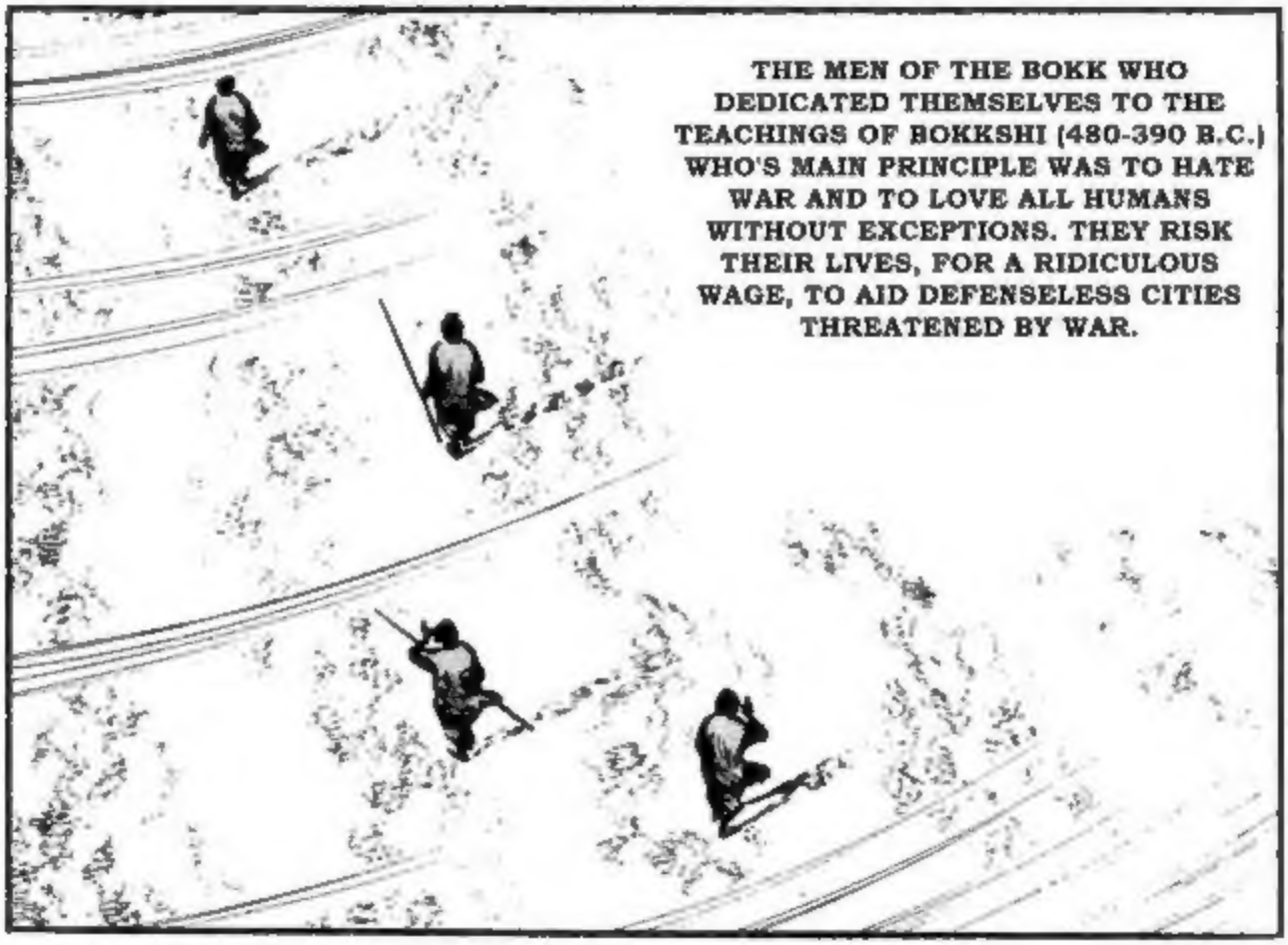
HARK!

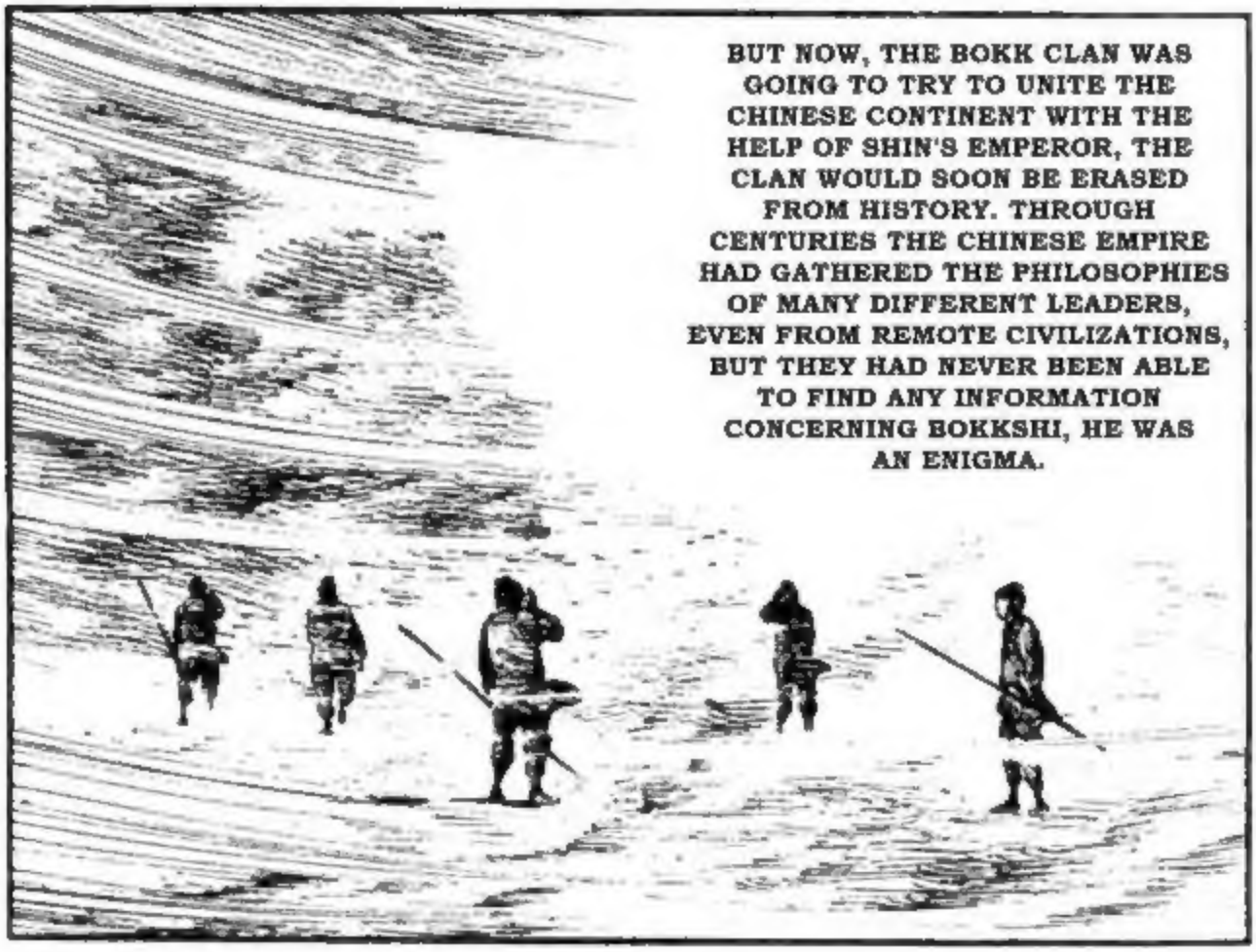
CLIP
CLOP

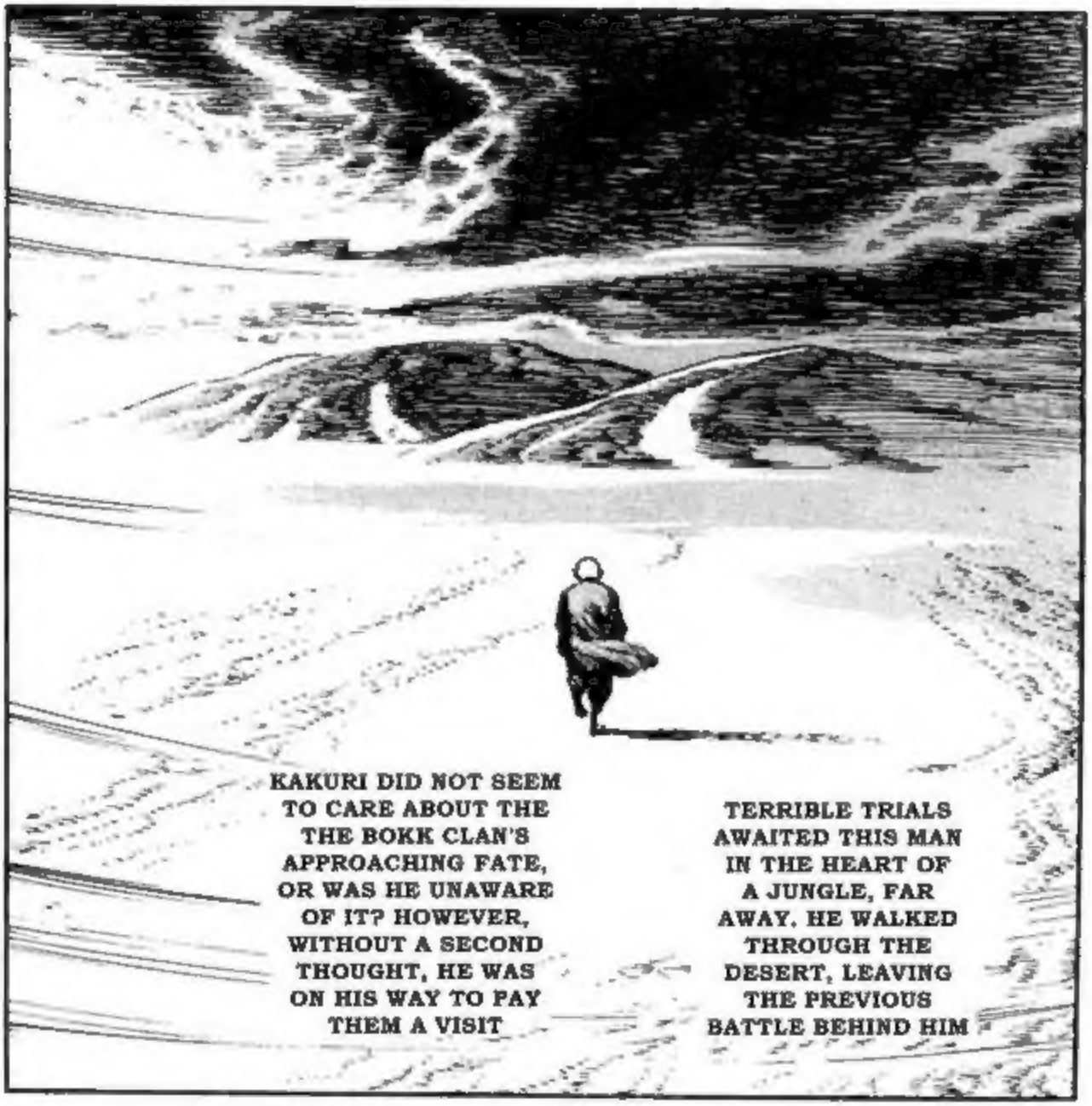

CLIP
CLOP
CLIP
CLOP

MISTER KAKURI KILLED HIM?
WHAT IF BOTH OF THEM DIED ...
KAKURI DID NOT FEAR DEATH!

BUT KAKURI WAS NO WHERE TO BE FOUND...


THE MEN OF THE BOKK WHO DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO THE TEACHINGS OF BOKKSHI (480-390 B.C.) WHO'S MAIN PRINCIPLE WAS TO HATE WAR AND TO LOVE ALL HUMANS WITHOUT EXCEPTIONS. THEY RISK THEIR LIVES, FOR A RIDICULOUS WAGE, TO AID DEFENSELESS CITIES THREATENED BY WAR.


BUT NOW, THE BOKK CLAN WAS GOING TO TRY TO UNITE THE CHINESE CONTINENT WITH THE HELP OF SHIN'S EMPEROR, THE CLAN WOULD SOON BE ERASED FROM HISTORY. THROUGH CENTURIES THE CHINESE EMPIRE HAD GATHERED THE PHILOSOPHIES OF MANY DIFFERENT LEADERS, EVEN FROM REMOTE CIVILIZATIONS, BUT THEY HAD NEVER BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING BOKKSHI, HE WAS AN ENIGMA.



KAKURI DID NOT SEEM TO CARE ABOUT THE THE BOKK CLAN'S APPROACHING FATE, OR WAS HE UNAWARE OF IT? HOWEVER, WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT, HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO PAY THEM A VISIT

TERRIBLE TRIALS AWAITED THIS MAN IN THE HEART OF A JUNGLE, FAR AWAY. HE WALKED THROUGH THE DESERT, LEAVING THE PREVIOUS BATTLE BEHIND HIM

END OF VOLUME 04